

The Middlebury Campus

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Econ. Shifts to Proctored Tests

By Claire Abbadi

After data from several surveys revealed high rates of self-reported cheating, the Economics Department took the unprecedented step of proctoring all exams in six core classes during the spring semester. The program is the first time that a group of classes has been approved for proctoring.

"[Past evidence, articles and conversations] suggest that there is a high percentages of individuals not following the honor code both from cheating individually or not reporting cheating," said Associate Professor of Economics and Department Spokesperson on the subject of proctored exams John Maluccio. "It is both high and persistent and we've had a few faculty members consider doing this individually. I think it made sense to consider it a little more broadly for all of the core courses."

The pilot program — approved by Dean of the College Shirley Colado — seemingly runs contrary to the preamble of the College's honor code that states: "the students of Middlebury College believe that individual undergraduates must assume responsibility for their own integrity on all assigned work," alluding to the College's policy of unproctored exams, which historically placed the burden of integrity and honesty on students.

This shift, however, will not extend beyond the six core classes and is not a reformation of the honor code, but rather the Department working within the honor code. As it stands now, the code allows for faculty members to request to proctor exams in classes where they suspect academic dishonesty is occurring after gaining approval from the Dean of the College.

"We reached this decision as we

do all important decisions; as a department, namely, as the result of a unanimous or near unanimous vote after vigorous conversation and a careful reckoning of the costs and benefits," said Christian A. Johnson Professor of Economics and Chair of the Department Peter H. Matthews.

Though most Economics professors refused to comment on the proctoring pilot program, some students feel strongly that this is the step in the right direction, acknowledging that it does come with drawbacks.

"I think it may be necessary since it is understood that there is a lot of cheating in the [Economics] department," said Nitya Mankad '16, an economics major. "But I think it affects how students feel about the honor code, since now it implicitly seems like professors don't trust us to proctor our own exams."

One student, who asked to remain anonymous due to the honor code's policy that students who witness cheating but do not report it are in violation of the honor code, said she witnessed her peers bring cheat sheets into tests, send pictures of graphs on phones and even look up material on computers.

"I don't think it matters for 'A' students who are less affected by cheaters who raise their grade from a 'D' to a 'B,'" the student said. "But for the students who are not naturally successful economics students but are working really hard in the class, it is really upsetting to see cheating."

The data, however, do not suggest that the Economics Department has the highest rate of cheating. Craig Thompson '13.5 conducted research for his Economics of Sin class and found that 35 percent of the 377 surveyed students

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ANTHEA VIRAGH

The semester began with a series of blizzards in rapid succession, blanketing the campus with snow.

College Reveals Branding Effort

By Eliza Teach and Ellie Reinhardt

In order to study the influence and perceptions of the Middlebury brand, the College sought the advice of Baltimore-based consultant Mark Neustadt. After interviewing students, faculty, alumni and prospective students alike, he presented his observations and suggestions to the faculty last spring.

"The core of my project, this project I'm talking about today, is what is that elevator speech, what is that narrative that takes into account all of Middlebury's various program centers and areas of expertise?" said Neustadt to begin his presentation.

In Neustadt's perspective,

marketing is about tailoring one's messages and activities in the context of audience priorities. He emphasized that the goal is not to conform to the audience's priorities, but to design marketing in regards to those priorities.

Neustadt observed that there is no basic disconnect among the many Middlebury-affiliated programs, which include the Summer Language School, the C. V. Starr Schools Abroad, the Bread Loaf School of English, the Bread Loaf Writers' Conference and the Monterey Institute of International Studies. The challenges facing Middlebury aren't what he calls profound or philosophical issues, but rather tactical issues such as graphic standards. He mentioned the

necessity of a robust logo system and the redesign of the website information architecture as two such examples of tactical issues to be addressed.

Since last year, the College has been considering ways of putting into action the suggestions made by Neustadt and is working to create a new logo that will be used as a common mark for Middlebury and all of its affiliate programs.

To involve members of the College community in the rebranding effort, six discussions — two for faculty, two for students and two for staff — have been held to unveil the new logo and gain feedback on the marketing efforts.

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"UPNEXT" DRAWS ALUMNI BACK



RACHEL FRANK

Christine Schozer '13, a production assistant at NBC, returned to campus on Saturday, Feb. 15 for the "UpNext" panel, which featured prominent alumni in the Media and Entertainment fields. "UpNext" is a series of industry-specific events organized by the Center for Careers and Innovation (CCI).

Carbon Neutrality Remains on Pace

By Mitchell Perry

Middlebury College's Office of Sustainability Integration declared the College to be on track towards its goal of carbon neutrality by 2016 in its most recent report citing the biomass plant, efforts by a variety of groups on campus, and the new biomethane initiative as critical to the progress.

In his Winter Term update, Director of Sustainability Jack Byrne wrote, "Our FY13 carbon emissions were 50 percent below our 2007 baseline year emissions due to the high performance of our biomass system AND the cumulative effects of the numerous energy efficiency projects the College has completed over the past several years."

The poster child of the Col-

lege's push for carbon neutrality has been the biomass plant, which has cut the College's use of #6 fuel oil from 2.1 million gallons to 634,000 gallons since 2009.

Despite its success, the biomass plant cannot always handle the College's large energy demand. "The next big step will be the switch to using biomethane to displace the fuel oil we still burn when biomass is not enough to meet heating and cooling demands," according to Byrne's report.

The process of switching over to biomethane to supplement the biomass plant will not be quick and is reliant on the successful construction of the recently approved Vermont Gas Systems pipeline project. The

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ALL YOU NEED
TO KNOW ABOUT
BROOMBALL
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Midd Earns Peace Corps Recognition

By Katie Theiss

According to a press release from the Peace Corps, the College ranked 14 on a list of top volunteer-producing small colleges. There are currently 12 former students volunteering worldwide, serving in Botswana, China, Jordan, Kenya, Malawi, Paraguay, Rwanda, Senegal, Togo and Uganda. Since the Peace Corps was founded in 1961, 481 alumni have traveled abroad to aid in the humanitarian effort.

Zoe Armstrong, the Peace Corps volunteer recruitment and selection representative for the College, credits Middlebury's success with the Peace Corps to the global citizenship of students and their commitment to finding sustainable solutions.

"Of [the College's] 150 student organizations, almost all of them are dedicated to either service or cross-cultural exchange," Armstrong said. "Middlebury students are already global citizens and that makes them great candidates for Peace Corps service."

"[The College] shares the Peace Corps' commitment to finding sustainable solutions to community challenges. Middlebury students always impress me with their commitment to helping marginalized populations and also their passion for finding environmentally sound innovations to combat climate change. They humbly talk about amazing work they are doing in environmental conservation, sustainable farming, LGBTQ rights, empowering youth, refugee outreach, and immigrant advocacy," she added.

The College's intensive language programs also makes students more attractive candidates for the Peace Corps, according to Armstrong.

"Students consistently come to interview sessions with files that reflect years of language study. They highlight their commitment to linguistic study because they want to use these skills to serve cross-cultural goals," she said.

Assistant Director in Career Services and Careers in the Common Good Tracy Himmel-Isham emphasized this commitment to language as a driving factor for students.

"Two huge driving factors for students who are interested in the Peace Corps are an interest in using language skills and an interest in living internationally," Himmel-Isham said, adding that the International Politics and Economics and Environmental Studies majors are two particularly attractive majors in the eyes of Peace Corps recruiters.

A commitment to international development, language study, and sustainability is evident among College alumni who are currently working as Peace Corps volunteers.

"I am working as a sustainable agriculture extension agent and speak the local language," said Rosalind Vara '10 of her experience working in Senegal in a press release. "I work with farmers to increase their crop yields, improve soil fertility, and reduce chemical inputs."

Margaret Bale '10 drew a parallel between her education at the College and her experience in the Peace Corps.

"I came to Botswana as a health volunteer, but my work has predominantly been in a primary school assisting with improving education for almost 200 children. Remembering what I had learned from my interdisciplinary experiences at Middlebury, I have been able to turn this into one of the best learning experiences I've had in my life," she said in a press release.

Armstrong emphasized that the accessibility to small villages around the world is a unique draw for the Peace Corps program.

"Peace Corps uses a last kilometer approach; volunteers serve in many small villages and thus make resources available to an expansive number of people," she said.

"Volunteers may learn a language that very few people in the world speak, volunteers gain new and unique perspectives to community challenges; when they come back to the United States, they bring leadership skills home with them and innovative ideas about how to become community leaders here," she added.

Prescott to be Offered as Superblock

By Thilan Tudor

Prescott House, former home to Delta before its disbandment in 2013 and current home to 27 first-year students, will be offered as a social house or superbloc for the 2014-2015 academic year. Applications and preliminary rosters for superblocs and social houses were due Tuesday, Feb. 18th.

Immediately following the disbandment process of Delta House that took place during spring semester of 2013, the future of Prescott House was in flux.

"The housing component that went along with [the disbandment] was that social houses are both organizations and residences," said Doug Adams, Associate Dean of Students and Chair of the Residential Life Committee. "When [Delta House] lost their organization they lost their residence. So what that left us with is this hole."

Prescott House was an effective solution to over-enrollment after high yield numbers pushed the Class of 2017 to 629 students. The decision to use Prescott as first-year housing instead of as a summer draw offering was made through the Dean of Students office in consultation with President of the College Ronald D. Liebowitz in order to find a solution that best met the interests of the College and first-year students.

"This worked out to be an ideal situation where we were able to put first-years in that location [...] and keep a cohesive group which is one of our primary concerns for first-year students. We were able to put 28 first years and 2 FYCs there which was great," Adams said.

Peter Mattson '14 who currently serves as an FYC in Prescott House emphasized that the current role of Prescott House as first-year housing has been successful.

"We've had very few problems from the outset because [Prescott] feels like a community. In a house like Prescott, it's a lot easier to promote community standards because it is such a nice house. [The first-years] were given a lot and they returned a lot," Mattson said.

Adams indicated that the decision to offer Prescott House as a social house or superbloc would provide students a social center on campus that would be guided by student interests. However, he emphasized that no preference would be given to social house or superbloc applications.

DOUG ADAMS
ASSOCIATE DEAN OF STUDENTS

The Residential Life Committee will give institutional support to prospective social house applicants throughout the application process and during the implementation of the new social house. If the SGA decides to postpone the approval of the new social house as an organization, the student group will be given the opportunity to live in Prescott as a superbloc. This will give them time to continue to apply for social house status. In contrast, if the prospective social house chooses not to continue the process after their first year in Prescott, they will not be held responsible for creating a long-term social house and will be allowed to opt out of the process.

Adams also indicated that all superbloc themes are equally welcome as long as they are willing to abide by the baseline regula-

tions and policies currently in place.

"We want people to follow the basic standards: no dorm damage, personal accountability and responsibility, and respect the rules and regulations with parties," Adams said. "You can absolutely have a party, that's expected. You live in a large house. We just expect you follow the rules for parties when you throw them."

Certain students have identified the need to fill Prescott with a student group that is able to contribute positively to the social scene on campus.

"There is definitely a void in the social scene where [Delta House] used to be and that needs to be filled," Kristin McDonald '16 said. "Whoever moves in, whether it be a superbloc or [Delta House], at least there will be more variance in the social scene."

Katherine Kucharczyk '16, a member of a student group that is applying for Prescott, said, "We all want to meet more people and we feel stuck in the bubble of our dorms, our teams and our classes. I think people come to Prescott events expecting a variety of programming that reflects the diversity of the people that live there."

According to Adams, there is no long-term plan currently in place for Prescott apart from meeting the current needs and interests of the student body and the College.

When asked if Delta House may return to Prescott in the future, Adams responded, "Whether or not a group of students comes back together and tries to form is really going to be a decision for the SGA and the Community Council. If there is a group that really wants to get together and reform, the question would be 'Why that group? Why under that name or that connection? Why that historical root as opposed to another?' [...] Whether or not [Delta House] comes back would be questionable, but not impossible."

Six Core Classes to be Proctored

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admitted to cheating during the 2012-2013 academic year. His research also indicated that hard science classes actually have the highest rate of cheating, not Economics, contrary to what many students believe.

Maluccio did acknowledge the challenges the Economics Department is fighting regarding the honor code due to the Department's size and popularity.

"We have about 100 majors a year and they are all taking every one of those six courses; they tend to be large classes," Maluccio said. "My presumption is that breaking the honor code is easier in those

kinds of settings. Other departments don't have classes of thirty, as often, perhaps."

"But, in our [interdepartmental] discussions, it wasn't that 'oh, everyone in Economics is cheating and people aren't elsewhere,'" continued Maluccio. "That hasn't come to the floor."

Regardless of where cheating is occurring and where it is not, Maluccio and the Economics Department emphasized that the proctoring is going to serve as a pilot for gathering data, and that opportunities for feedback and in-depth conversation will be made available.

"We want feedback from, in particular, students," he said. "It seems to me that if

you are a student who is not taking part in this sort of activity, it is such an affront to your integrity that someone else is and cheapening the overall experience."

While the proctoring is limited to just six economics classes, it involves the entire student body, which signed the honor code during their first days on campus and took a vow of academic integrity.

"I think this pilot will advance the community conversation about different options for moving forward from a status quo that many students and faculty find unacceptable," wrote Associate Dean for Judicial Affairs and Student Life Karen Guttentag in an email.



Thank you for all of the petitions on WetheMiddKids! Your initiatives and comments have given the SGA excellent food for thought. In this column, I will highlight two of the ideas that Senate addressed during our most recent meeting.

Last meeting, the Senate talked about the petition "Oppose the Planned Dining 'Swipe System.'" This petition presumably stemmed from the *Campus* article published last week. While some senators expressed support for this petition, the dominating interest concerned the role of student feedback in potential changes to the dining plan. I promise to ensure that students have a seat at the table, if, and when, the College discusses dining plan reform. Food is a major part of student life, and it is essential that your voices be heard on this issue.

That said, I personally see the value of a swipe system. This method would prevent people who do not attend the College from eating food served in our dining halls. This

practice, commonly and amusingly called "riding the panther," stretches the dining budget beyond its designated use. When the College determines the dining budget, it takes into account the number of students matriculated. When people "ride the panther" consistently, they increase the amount of food Dining Services cooks. This result translates into the reduced monetary value of each serving of food, because the budget must stretch further than its intended purpose. Basically, there's not as much money to go around. If people did not "ride the panther," the dining budget could be more effectively distributed, thereby increasing the quality of food for all students at the College.

First of all, a swipe system may exist alongside the universal, unlimited meal plan. Recent criticism, however asserts that a swipe system will lead to the implementation of a more traditional meal plan. A traditional meal plan might have more positive impacts than critics assume. Although the universal, unlimited meal plan serves many of us well, it does not always serve us perfectly. Practically, the unlimited meal plan may not work efficiently, and as such, a traditional meal plan may lead to higher quality food as well as added benefits like points at 51 Main or the Grille.

From a more philosophical perspective, I encourage all students to consider the worth of the unlimited meal plan. Is it essential to the culture of Middlebury College, as the writer of the MiddKid petition suggests? Does it vastly impact the lives of Middlebury students? Is it worth the cost of inefficiencies? I think that students have become accustomed to the unlimited meal plan. We have grown to love it and to view it as essential. I urge you

to consider the veracity of these beliefs. For me, the magic of unlimited dining has lost its glow and glitter. I see it as a barrier to higher quality food and flexible dining. I will continue investigating the complexities of this issue, and I will ensure that students' voices are heard.

Another petition on WetheMiddKids, "Make Skiing More Accessible to Low Income Students," also incited discussion amongst your representatives. Senators overwhelmingly supported this idea. In the words of First-Year Senator Karina Toy, skiing forms part of the quintessential "Vermont and Middlebury experience." Many Middlebury traditions feature the activity, such as Winter Carnival and Feb Graduation. As such, skiing should be accessible to all students. Achieving this goal, however, would require funding. The Snow Bowl and Rikert Nordic Center are cost intensive operations run by the College, and Middlebury already subsidizes the ticket and rental prices for skiing.

Senior Senator Nathan LaBarba plans to pursue the idea of making all P.E. credits included in the comprehensive fee. This change would make ski lessons accessible to all interested students — they could sign up for no extra charge. Other methods of further subsidizing skiing and snowboarding include SGA-purchased, bundled passes that students could sign up to use. Currently, the nordic skiing club, "SKIGA," uses this method. The SGA could simply enlarge the scope of their work.

**I want to hear what you think.
Email me at sga@middlebury.edu to
tell me your ideas about dining, skiing
and all things Middlebury.**

Carbon Neutrality Hinges on Biomethane

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pipeline will allow for cost-effective access to biogas when the biomass plant requires it to maintain operation. The Office of Sustainability Integration estimates the biomethane project will be online by early 2015 at the latest.

The success of the biomethane project is essential to the attainment of carbon neutrality as Byrne anticipates that it will reduce the College's carbon emissions by 40 percent from the baseline emissions. This amounts to about a 90 percent reduction overall from the baseline year.

"Once this is achieved, [the] remainder of our carbon emissions will be from College related travel, electricity purchased, vehicle fleet and waste sent to the landfill," Byrne wrote.

College-related travel will account for

roughly half of the remaining 10 percent of carbon emissions. According to the 2008 Climate Action Implementation Plan, the current definition of travel includes exclusively College-funded travel, and excludes travel that is funded by student groups or is funded through grants.

However, Byrne reports, "We are in the process of revising the method for calculating emissions from travel as it represents more than half of the total that would remain to assure that we are using as accurate an estimate as feasible." Other efforts to reduce emissions due to travel include converting some of the College's vehicles to run on carbon-neutral fuel.

That leaves about five percent of emissions that need to be cut and much of that can be done with the involvement of College students.

"I think a lot of people don't realize

how easy it is to reduce their day to day energy use," said Campus Sustainability Coordinators (CSC) President Ali Rotatori '14. "Most of the students on this campus are very eager and willing to live greener, but the issue is they aren't sure how."

The CSCs are one of a handful of student groups on campus committed to educating the student body on responsible energy use.

Rotatori acknowledges that not everyone can commit the time to environmentally-focused groups.

"If people can't be directly involved and commit time to helping Middlebury become a more environmentally friendly place, they can at least help out by changing their own habits," she said.

Rotatori and her fellow Campus Sustainability Coordinators have many suggestions in their "Greening Your Dorm

Room" pamphlet including turning off power strips, taking shorter showers, and walking instead of driving around campus.

With the deadline just two years away, the College is planning to reach its goal thanks to the efforts of many students, facilities and maintenance staff, faculty and administrators.

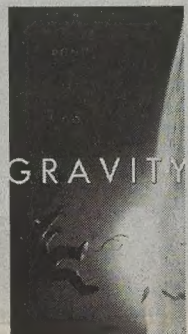
However, if Middlebury finds itself falling short of its carbon neutrality goal, there is a back-up plan in the form of "carbon credits" that can be purchased to offset our emissions. Colby College employed this tactic when it claimed its own carbon neutrality, sparking debate about the validity of using carbon credits to assert carbon neutrality.

For now though, the College is focusing on furthering what progress has been made in the effort to achieve its goal.

MCAB's WHAT'S HAPPENING AT MIDDLEBURY?

Free Friday Film ▶
Gravity will play in Dana Auditorium
FRIDAY AT 6 & 9 P.M.

Zumba
Take a study break to dancercise in McCullough Social Space!
SUNDAY AT 4 P.M.



WINTER CARNIVAL WEEKEND

Bonfire
Kick off the long weekend with a bonfire outside of Ross!
THURSDAY AT 8 P.M.

Fireworks
Oohs and aahs after the bonfire at Ross.
THURSDAY AT 9 P.M.

Comedy Night
Laugh until you cry as stand-up star Jay Larson performs in McCullough.
THURSDAY AT 9:30 P.M.



David Wax Museum
Students voted and MCAB followed through. Free concert in the Social Space!
FRIDAY AT 8:30 P.M.

Hot Chocolate Bar
Warm up with MCAB's free Winter Carnival hot chocolate bar!
SATURDAY AT 3 P.M.

Winter Carnival Ball
Dance the night away with DJ Earworm! Beer garden for those 21+ with two forms of ID.
SATURDAY AT 10 P.M. - 2 A.M.

Local Delivery Service Wins Pitch Challenge

By Jack Ravery

Teddy Gold '16 won the Middlebury Entrepreneurs Pitch Challenge during J-term with his local delivery project, Otter Delivery. Otter Delivery functions as an on-demand delivery service, allowing students to place pick-up requests at stores in town and have it delivered to their dorm room later that day.

The Middlebury Entrepreneurs Pitch Challenge, also known as the Schiller Cup, was named after Pieter Schiller '60, an alumnus who went on to have a successful venture capital career. Participating in the Pitch Challenge was the final assignment of the Middlebury Entrepreneurs J-term class, a student-taught course for students wishing to start their own business. Twelve student-run companies gained experience and feedback from over a dozen experts in entrepreneurial and business fields, who served as visiting advisors to the students.

President of Vermont Center for Emerging Technologies (VCET) David Bradbury and Vice President of VCET Andrew Stickney served as visiting professors and head advisors for the students. Bradbury and Stickney helped the students throughout the month to develop their ideas and prepare them for their final presentations to be pitched before ten entrepreneurs.

Vice President for College Advancement Jim Keyes '71 presented Gold with the Schiller Cup on behalf of the Project on Creativity and Innovation in the Liberal Arts at the College.

Gold says the idea for Otter Delivery arose when he and his friends were building a TV stand, could not find a screwdriver and resorted to purchasing one online.

Knowing the impact that the College has on local businesses, Gold said that he "realized there should be a local Amazon.com system, where [students] would use the stores in town as [their] own personal delivery warehouses."

Through Otter Delivery, Gold believes that it is possible to instill students with a sense of pride for living in Middlebury by "[providing] a convenience for students who

are geographically separated from town." By making local businesses more accessible for this population of students, Gold believes that local businesses will benefit from a new and increased clientele.

Gold initially envisioned Otter Delivery in the form of an application to allow students to browse the inventory of local stores. His advisors helped him to refine his vision, suggesting that he "start small and scalable."

VCET has provided crucial support to Gold for his effort to counteract the student population's tendency to buy from mega-retailers such as Amazon.com instead of local businesses.

Gold now has a team of six student workers, dubbed "Otters," who are on-call for two hours each day to take orders, pick up goods and make deliveries. Otter Delivery charges five dollars per location visited plus the cost of the order.

While Gold is enthusiastic about the benefits Otter Delivery will provide, some students are more skeptical.

"[The College] already makes our lives so easy through the dining halls and custodial services, for example, so I see little purpose in paying students to do the few errands and extra tasks we do have," Elisa Berger '17 said.

Rene Gonzalez '17, however, noted the benefit of using a delivery service such as Gold's every now and then.

"If you have to acquire many supplies and do not have any mode of transportation, then having the bulk of the work done for you by people who [do it as part of their job] is absolutely legitimate," she said.

Looking ahead, Gold plans to create locally sourced move-in kits for members of the Class of 2018 with dorm room essentials purchased from local businesses. Gold is also looking to expand Otter Delivery and will be speaking with administrators at local retirement facilities to see if they are interested in using his business.

Otter Delivery can be reached at 802-444-1490 or teddy@otterdelivery.com. Same-day delivery is guaranteed for all orders placed before 3 p.m.



Jeopardy! College Championship Showing Midd Style
WEDNESDAY 7:00-8:00PM

Come see Middlebury's own, Erika Sloan, on Jeopardy on the big screen at Crossroads. 50% off smoothies and Dr. Feelgoods.

MCAB: Trivia Night
FRIDAY 9:00-11:00PM

All ages welcome! Beer and wine available for 21+ with 2 forms of ID.

MCAB Winter Carnival Hot Chocolate Bar
SATURDAY 3:00-5:00PM

Debate
SATURDAY 5:00-6:30PM
Should Middlebury Censor Hate Speech On Campus?

Black Voices
SUNDAY 6:00-8:00PM



Blues Jam

WEDNESDAY 8:00-10:00PM

Join us every 3rd Wednesday for Blues Jam. Dennis Willmott from Left Eye Jump will provide lead guitar, bass, and drums and these guys will back you up or take a break and let you play. All musicians and blues fans are welcome! Everyone will get a chance to play.

Ubiquitous Coyote
THURSDAY 8:00-10:00PM

The Ubiquitous Coyote features Susan Nop on vocals, keyboard, and accordion and Matthew Dickerson on acoustic guitar, bass, harmonica, and vocals. The duo plays a mix of original songs and covers. Their style spans a spectrum of Americana music from the gritty to the lounge (with an occasional slower ballad thrown in).

Sunrise Speakeasy
FRIDAY 8:00-11:00PM

Sunrise Speakeasy is a collaborative duo featuring Vermont-bred singer/songwriters Mimi Bain and Joshua Glass (The Mood Stabilizers, Women Be Shoppin', Quiet Lion). Bain's sometimes smoky, sometimes roof-shattering vocals effortlessly blend with Glass' haunting falsetto, tied together by a repertoire of rafter-cracking, belty blues, folksy-rock, soul, and jazz.

Young Talent Showcase

SATURDAY 7:00-10:00PM

Featuring performances by local favorites Isabel Rosenberg (piano), Nick Marshall (acoustic guitar), and Shaded Gray—an Alt. Rock/Indie band featuring Jasper Christensen (bass), Olivia Cacciatore (drums and vocals), and Matias Van Order Gonzalez (lead guitar).

College to Reveal Branding, Logo for all Entities

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Vice President of Communications Bill Burger, who is part of the team working to create the new logo, led these discussions.

"I want to hear if people like the new logos we are working on or if they don't like them, why?" he said. "If they have specific ideas we want to hear them and try to incorporate them. I want to be as inclusive as we can be in the early stages. I think if we do this well we will have a successful end result and avoid the mistakes that some others have made working on logos in the past."

The discussions, open to anyone in the College community, revealed the different options presented during the brainstorming process for a new logo. Burger explained the design approaches taken regarding details such as structure, typeface and the most effective means of including all educational entities within the a new logo.

Jackson Adams '17 attended one of the student discussions and said of the work being done on the logo, "I'm not a big fan

of change, especially for Middlebury as a campus rooted in so much tradition and despite my distrust in ad agencies trying to embody everything, I think that this work has managed to capture the basic vibe of Middlebury accurately ... it seems to give the right information and idea about Middlebury as a whole."

Those working on the new logo will present their work and the feedback from these discussions to the Board of Trustees on Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22. The Board will then indicate whether the project of creating a new logo should continue.

"We are presenting to the [Board of Trustees] looking for their reactions and looking for similar feedback to what we have in these sessions," Burger said. "We expect some direction from the board on how to move forward on the project," adding that positive feedback has been received in "every instance that people have seen the work."

Neustadt also suggested that the College redesign its website so that its different entities were more distinct and easily searchable.

"The website should have an architecture that a little more sufficiently supports the affiliated program and their goals," he said.

In other words, a student searching for information on the German summer language school shouldn't easily end up at the College's German department page.

"What is needed at Middlebury now, more than I think the institution acknowledges, is segmentation between the programs, so that the programs and each talk about themselves without mushing everything together into a narrative about the bigger Middlebury," Neustadt said.

"This issue is most critical for the College ... If the College will optimally continue to advance, what the College also needs is a segmented boundary space where it can talk about its own goals be-

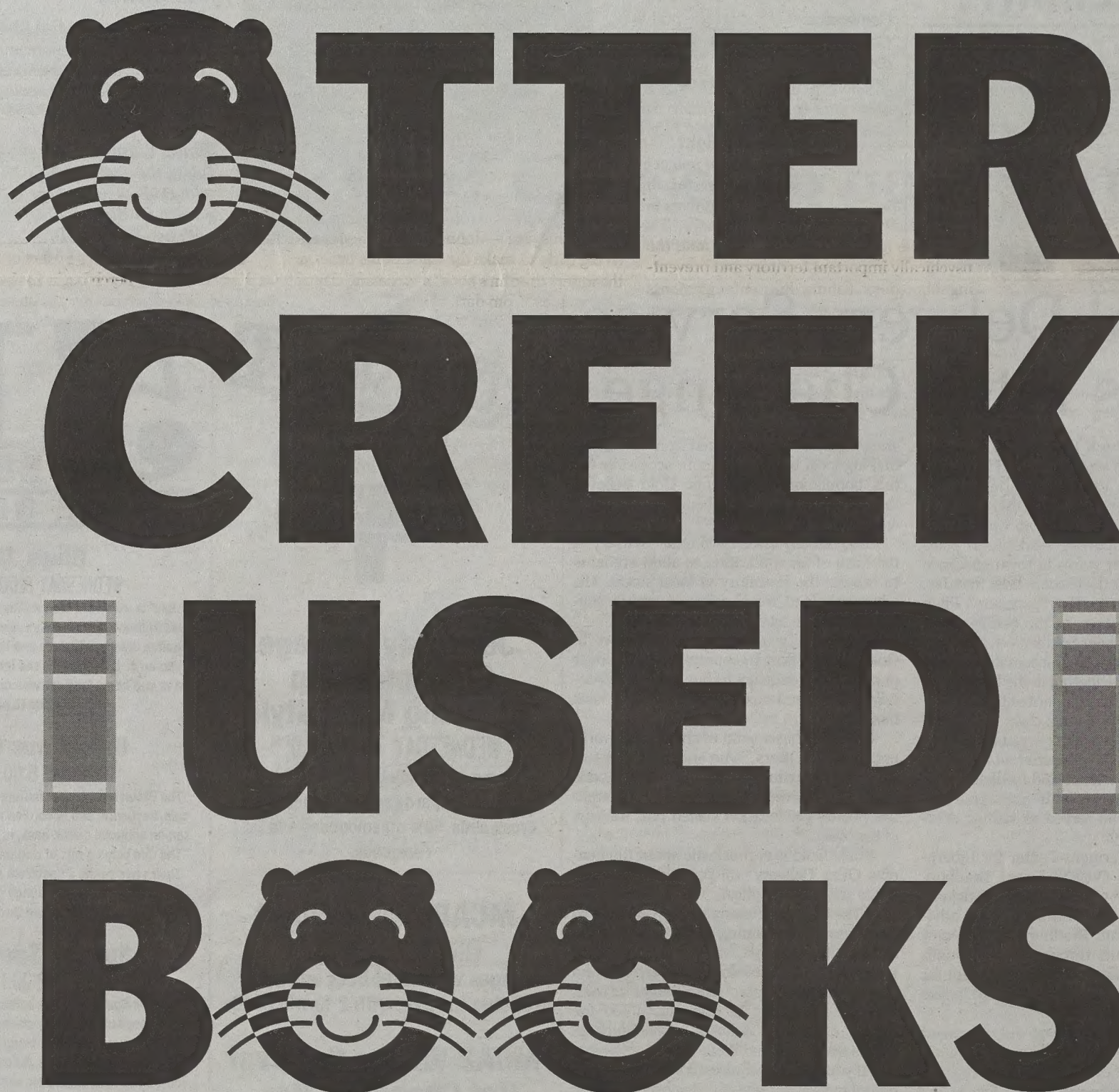
cause the college's goals are not identical to the goals of this greater, you know, collection of programs."

He emphasized that the general brand narrative should not be the first priority for the majority of the members of the college community and its distinct affiliated programs, adding that the College, in particular, needs to be much more clearly demarcated instead of presented as the base for the affiliated programs.

Neustadt concluded his presentation with a proposal of two brand-theme narrative recommendations to straddle the College and its various affiliated programs. In presenting the College and its affiliated programs, he suggested that Middlebury focus on the strong sense of community fostered by its rural Vermont campus, as well as preparation for what he calls an increasingly globally interconnected world.

"... what the College also needs is a segmented boundary space where it can talk about its own goals ..."

MARK NEUSTADT
BRANDING CONSULTANT



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Monday-Saturday 10-5, Sundays by chance

Braving the Cold for the Big Catch

By Conor Grant

John Quelch, an ardent ice fisherman, invited me to join him on the pond last weekend after I called him to ask some questions about ice fishing. Expecting only to meet John for a conversation, I was excited to get the chance to join him out on the ice.

Before I met John in person, he made me promise not to print the name of his beloved fishing pond.

"Just to be clear up front," he told me when I first spoke with him on the phone, "you can't print the name of the pond."

So, if you are reading this article in the hopes that you might pick up a few new ice-fishing hotspots, I will let you know up front that you are out of luck.

When I arrived at John's pond, I parked the car and tromped out a hundred yards through thick snow to a bright green structure sitting like a jewel in the middle of the expanse of snow-covered ice.

While John has set up his holes within walking distance of the banks of his pond, many other ice fishermen choose to set up shop further afield — many use snowmobiles, ATVs or even trucks to haul all of their gear out on to the lake.

With difficulty, I followed the sled tracks to the middle of the lake and greeted the camouflage-covered man sitting resolutely

The shanty itself consisted of four plywood walls and a tin roof built on top of a pair of skis. The interior boasted two small benches that could accommodate four non-claustrophobic individuals, a few small shelves, a central table and small plexiglass windows that enable John to keep an eye on his rigs even when he is warming up in the shanty.

Armed with a plastic fork, I speared a chunk of sizzling venison from the tiny stove that sat atop the lone table in the little wooden structure at John's insistence.

He built this particular shanty with his father years ago, and he drags it out every year alongside a sled full of his gear as soon as the ice becomes solid enough to support the weight. The shanty is the ember of warmth that maintains John's body heat through the frigid Vermont winter mornings.

The outside of the shanty was painted in a rich emerald green. Beside the door is a placard that provided John's name and hometown.

John's shanty is the only one on his pond, and thanks to a tight-lipped group of friends, his exclusive access to the waters underneath the ice is not often challenged. On the day that I went out to visit John, however, there was another group of two people on the northeast corner of the pond, a mere 30 feet from the outer perimeter of John's equipment.

"I know I got a bit too close to them," John told me, arching his head in the direction of the other anglers, "but I always fish here."

John explained to me that proper ice-fishing etiquette typically requires that all parties on a particular lake maintain a respectful distance from one another. This serves the dual purpose of maintaining the psychologically important territory and preventing obnoxious fishing line entanglements that sometimes occur — when fish yank a length of line through a neighbor's gear.

More often than not, John is alone on his lake for the entire day. He prefers his smaller, quieter lake to some of the larger, more heavily fished lakes. Despite his preference for fishing alone or with a small group of friends, however, John is still an active participant in state derbies, which are fishing contests that are often sponsored across the state of Vermont. In the past, John has won the bronze and silver awards, but he has yet to capture the largest fish in the competition and claim the gold.

On the same morning that I fished with John, more than 380 people were out on Lake Bomoseen, which hosted a derby over the course of the weekend. These hundreds of participants set up shanties all across the lake in the hopes that they would win a portion of the cash prize awarded for capturing the largest fish.

John was out on the lake with a bunch of his friends on this particular morning because the weather was so friendly. On many mornings, it is dangerous to stand outside on the lake for more than a few minutes, John explained to me, so shanties are important for serious fishermen. John, who did not strike me as much of a complainer, left what exactly he meant by dangerous to the imagination.



CONOR GRANT

John Quelch, pictured above with an underwater jock, is an avid ice fisherman.

On this particular morning, however, I got lucky. The sky was ablaze with sunshine, and the biting cold had receded to afford us a balmy morning in the mid 30's.

John had arrived at his pond at around six in the morning to begin drilling his holes for the day. Eager to make the most of his outings — this was the eighth of his winter season this year — John is diligent about arriving early to make the most of his time on the water. In John's book, a successful day of fishing goes "from dark til dark."

John bores into the ice with a gasoline-powered auger, a massive handheld corkscrew that drills holes with an eight-inch diameter down through the ice. When he arrives in the morning, John drills eight holes into the ice, clearing the area around the holes of snow so as to allow unrestricted access to the depths below later on in the day. Vermont law allows each fisherman to operate eight holes at a time. The only exception to the eight-hole cap is Lake Champlain, Vermont's largest body of water, which allows each fisherman to oversee 15 holes.

John arranges the holes in a circle beginning and ending with his shanty. From a bird's eye of view, the configuration resembles an oval-shaped necklace with a giant emerald at the end. Into each hole, John places a fishing rig.

The rigs are wooden cross-posts that sit in the holes. The undersides of the crosses contain reels of 150-foot long, reinforced double-woven green filament. John first measures the depth of the bottom of the pond at each site and then affixes a small leader to each line to ensure that the bait — a bunch of shiners flitting around in a plexiglass bucket — its roughly one foot on top of the pond's floor, where most of the fish are thought to live.

John's apparatus features an underwater jock, which would remain functional and continue to let out line even if the top of the hole were to freeze.

On the top of the rig mechanism sits a small orange flag that flips up into the sky to indicate that a fish has taken the bait. Once the rigs have all been set up, John and any of his friends can simply sit in the chairs by the shelter and relax.

Although John must periodically walk around the perimeter of his rigs and poke the tops of the holes with an ice skimmer to keep them from freezing, much of the day is spent relaxing on the lake.

In addition to the venison that John had cooked on the stovetop in the shanty, John and his friends were well stocked with bratwursts and beer to keep them going through the long day of fishing.

While I only arrived at the pond at nine, John and his friends had been on the pond

since the early morning, and they had already caught a few small perch. After all of the venison disappeared, one of John's friends grabbed a filleting knife and began dismembering the squirming fish with a few deft strokes of the knife. Having quickly separated the fish into piles of scales, bones and meat lying on the snow, he took the fish filets and put them on the skillet in the shanty.

As I stared into John's bucket of shiners and listened to the perch begin to sizzle and pop as it cooked on the tiny gas stove, John snapped me out of my distraction by yelling "Tips up!" in chorus with all of his buddies.



CONOR GRANT

Quelch holds a freshly caught pike.

An expression describing the movement of the small orange flags mounted atop the rigs, the rallying cry "tips up" is the expression on the tip of every expectant fisherman's tongue. At long last, John's diligence was validated.

I walked quickly through the snow to watch John haul up a pike from the thin hole. The pike was beautifully striped, with gorgeous scarlet markings. Pike, which aren't eating fish, are some of the most common hauls in ice fishing.

John laid the fish on the ground outside of the hole and expertly removed the hook from its mouth with an implement that resembled a pair of pliers.

The pike more than made up for its lack of appeal to the stomach with a brilliant appeal to the eyes. Swatches of red, blue and yellow swirled into one another along the fish's tail, and the pike's powerful lower jawbone jutted out aristocratically.

"That's a beautiful fish," I told him.

He smiled, and the creases around his eyes expanded behind his sunglasses.

"It sure is," he said. Without another word, he tossed the pike through the small hole and back down into the cold water below. Afterwards, he walked back to his shanty with a grin hewn into his coarse beard, already looking forward to the next tip up.



CONOR GRANT

Quelch converses outside the shanty.

in the folding chair outside of the wooden structure and sipping a Bud Light.

"Is John Quelch around?" I asked the man.

"Sure is," the man replied. "This is his, after all," he said, gesturing vaguely to the wooden structure and all of the equipment behind his chair. I had no idea what, exactly, was John's, but it seemed to me that it was something significant.

John, who stood in the middle of the lake holding a green contraption attached to a fishing reel, waved me over to him from a distance. Dressed for the weather in a sturdy, hooded canvas jacket and a pair of sunglasses to offset the blinding white sunlight, John took me through the step-by-step process of ice fishing.

John began the tour with the green structure in the middle of the lake that served as his de facto headquarters.

"So do most ice fisherman use warming huts like this one?" I asked him.

"I guess you can call it whatever you want," John told me affably, "but it's called a shanty. Not everyone uses a shanty, but most guys do."



CONOR GRANT

A board shows the numerous varieties of prize-winning fish caught in a recent ice-fishing derby on Lake Bomoseen that boasted more than 350 participants.

The Lobby Restaurant Opens

By Harry Cramer

The Lobby, chef Michael Mahe's most recent restaurant, opened for business on Feb. 15 on Bakery Lane. The French chef said that he'd been interested in Middlebury "for ten years, but finally got it." The building formerly housed the restaurant Jackson's on the River.

The Lobby serves a variety of dishes, including five different burgers, several salads, vegetarian and vegan options, and entrees such as scallops in lobster sauce and grilled chicken with french fries. The Lobby opens for dinner starting at 5 pm, and will begin serving lunch on Feb. 24.

The restaurant's vintage decorations and lighting give it a fun atmosphere, said owner Michael Mahe.

"It's different from the other restaurants, so I think that it'll add to the town," he said. The lounge includes 1920's furniture, a dark hardwood bar and a projec-



HARRY CRAMER

Chef Mahe hopes the interior will give the Lobby a fun yet relaxed atmosphere.

tor that displays retro food pictures that would make instagram users jealous.

Above the bar stands a plaque which features a quote from early twentieth century comedian W.C. Fields: "Once during prohibition I was forced to live on nothing but food and water." That particular decoration is one of Mahe's favorites.

In addition to the bar, the lounge area offers a space for patrons to relax or enjoy appetizers. The unique multi-leveled upstairs offers patrons a view of the river outside, and downstairs is a "lounge-bar-hangout zone," said Mahe.

"They're all unique, my restaurants, but this is just the route we decided to take here," Mahe said of the refined yet playful ambiance. "Our motto here is let's have some fun."

"They're all unique, my restaurants. Our motto here is let's have some fun."

MICHAEL MAHE

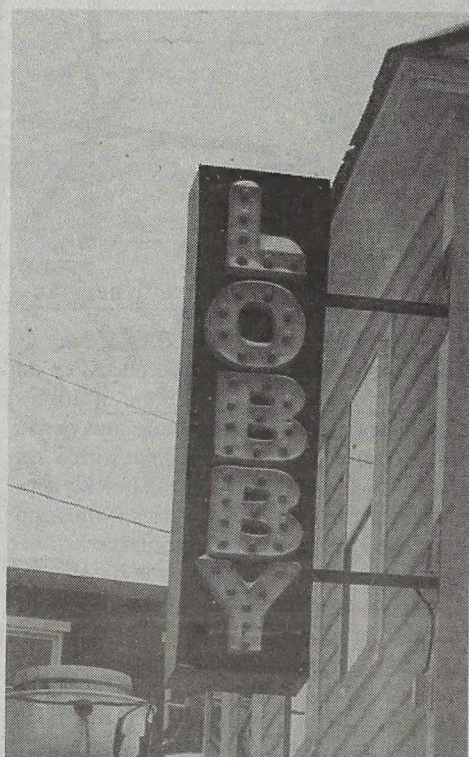
Mahe is not new to the food service industry in Vermont. He currently owns several other eateries around the state, including Black Sheep Bistro in Vergennes, The Bobcat Café and Brewery in Bristol and The Bearded Frog in Shelburne Village.

The Lobby's gourmet food is cheaper than some local restaurants', like American Flatbread or the Storm Cafe. "I think what the Bobcat has shown me is if you create a local place that is affordable, accessible and casual enough, people will show up in droves," Mahe said.

Prices for the burgers range from 11 dollars for a traditional burger to 17 dollars for the more expensive lamb burger.

"I would say it's under market as far as what we're charging" said Mahe.

To make a reservation, call (802)-989-7463, or visit www.lobbyrestaurant-vt.com.



HARRY CRAMER

The Lobby opened Sunday in town.

ONE IN 8,700

Where the personalities of Middlebury proper are celebrated

By Harry Cramer

Sue Lahai and Tracy Rayman have been cutting hair side by side at Bud's Barbershop for over 18 years.

The shop was opened in 1971 by Bud, according to Rayman.

"He worked up right until ninety, so whatever clientele he had left we grabbed. This has been here for over sixty years. So everybody knows us."

Meet Sue Lahai and Tracy Rayman

BUD'S BARBER SHOP

One customer, a regular at the shop, joked with them during his haircut.

Bud's Barbershop is "the only place in town to get a good old fashioned haircut," he asserted. "Just a buzz to your head, that's all you need."

The prices per cut are the lowest in town, at an even twelve dollars. The shop is currently open from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. on weekdays, and 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. on Saturdays.

Before the barbershop, Lahai and Rayman did work at a salon, but they "both left for various reasons," explained Sue. "[Tracy] was allergic to the color and stuff, and my back couldn't do the shampoos anymore, so we both did this. This doesn't require shampoo or color or anything."

Sue reminded me that in addition to their decades of experience, both attended barber schools. "It's not like we came out of high school knowing what to do," she said.

The shop sees a mix of local residents, and during the school year, Middlebury College students and faculty.

"We get a lot of summer school kids too," said Tracy. "We also get Bread Loaf, and the town fills in when you guys aren't here."

"Middlebury College, I have to admit, supports us pretty well," said Lahai. "When you guys are gone we definitely know."

Because of local construction, the

shop will be demolished at the end of the month. Bud's new location, 28 Court Street, is just a short walk away. "They're putting tunnels in," Tracy said. "The traintracks need to be lower so they can get the taller trains through."

Tracy thinks the move is a good choice. "[The new building] has handicap accessibility, and parking, and it's still close to the college. We have a lot of older customers that need that ramp. That's difficult to find in town."

Still, Tracy believes the experience of cutting hair will be different. Sue agreed: "Yeah it definitely is. We've worked like twelve inches apart for eighteen years, and now we're going to be like, three feet apart. It's gonna seem very strange."



HARRY CRAMER

Sue Lahai and Tracy Rayman have cut hair in the same building for 18 years.

LOCAL LOWDOWN 21

Bobcats in Our Backyards Presentation

Come on down to the New Haven Town Office this Thursday to hear wildlife biologist Laura Farrell talks about the behaviors and characteristics of the elusive bobcat. The presentation is a part of the New Haven Conservation Commission's Armchair Naturalist Speaker Series.

FEB. 20, 7 PM

Cooper & LaVoie Perform at Two Brothers

Feeling the winter blues? Head down to Two Brothers Tavern this Friday from 6-9 pm to enjoy some free classic folk and blues songs performed by 'Cooper & LaVoie.' Bob Recupero plays guitar and sings, and Mark LaVoie is an experienced harmonica player and vocalist.

FEB. 21, 6 - 9 PM

The Michele Fay Band

The Michele Fay Band will be performing Americana and original music in Brandon this Saturday. The ensemble is headed by Michele Fay, a singer-songwriter with a voice warm enough to warm the coldest of hearts! Call (802)-465-4071 or email info@brandon-music.net for reservations. Tickets cost 15 dollars.

FEB. 22, 7:30 - 9:30 PM

All-You-Can-Eat Breakfast in New Haven

Looking for an excuse to stuff your face with breakfast food? Head over to New Haven Town Hall this Sunday at 7 for an all-you-can-eat pancake breakfast. Blueberry pancakes, french toast, fresh syrup, scrambled eggs, bacon, and every other heavenly food imaginable will be available, and the proceeds will benefit the New Haven Volunteer Fire Department.

FEB. 23, 7 - 11 AM

Eckankar Discussion

Looking for the keys to a clearer mind and more successful existence? Us too. Ilsley Library will hold an open discussion about the teachings of Eckankar, a religion based on the light and sound of God. For more information visit www.eckankar-ut.org

FEB. 24, 7 - 8 PM

Auditions for "Almost, Maine"

Is your inner thespian clamouring to break free? Middlebury Community Players will hold auditions for "Almost, Maine" this Tuesday at the Town Hall Theatre at 7. The play, a romantic comedy consisting of several smaller vignettes, will run from May 1-4, and has 19 male roles and 20 female roles. For info call (802)-388-7432.

FEB. 25, 7 - 9 PM

No Honor (Code) Among Us

Self-proctored exams are one of the most visible manifestations of our honor code. Our professors hand out the

EDITORIAL

The editorial represents the official opinion of *The Middlebury Campus* as decided by the editorial board.

students take their exam - an attempt to combat cheating and a lack of peer reporting. While professors have always been allowed to petition to proctor their

exams, this is the first time that a group of classes will be proctored.

This should not be seen as a logical step, but rather as a shameful reminder of a broken system, and should not be lauded. The honor code is a privilege. Our professors grant us tremendous trust that extends far beyond proctoring. From assigning take-home exams to understanding and accommodating our needs when problems arise, professors here believe in our honesty and academic integrity, and this grants us a degree of freedom. This change in policy, however, shows that this trust is being breeched and there are consequences.

Is the honor code dying? No one seems to be rushing to its defense. Economics majors are not protesting or petitioning. Professors are not pressing its importance upon their classes. Students are not passionate about the honor code anymore. The fact that this was covertly laid out and never officially announced points to the overwhelming apathy of all parties. A change in the culture in our classrooms has been met with deafening silence.

It makes sense that the student body has lost interest in the honor code. We had nothing to do with its creation, and we almost never hear about it after first-year orientation. If the honor code has lackluster support, it is not because this generation of Middkids is less moral or more apathetic than the ones before it. It is simply that we, that is to say our entire community, administration, professors, and students alike, are not invested enough in the honor code. As with anything else, if we want the honor code to succeed, we need to invest in it. It is easy enough to say cheating will always be a problem. The challenge is to create a culture that rejects it.

In the real world, there are no proctors, but students here will go on to be successful and influential businessmen, politicians, doctors, teachers, lawyers and community members. The honor code is a part of the Middlebury brand. We love to point to the honor code as a demonstration of our integrity and the type of community we come from. What, then, does it say about our future selves if we cannot expect integrity from our community members now?

Our limited contact with the honor code consists of ceremonial signing during orientation followed by writing it occasionally on essays and tests. But at

schools where the honor code really works, Davidson and the University of Virginia for example, the honor code is ingrained into the culture. Instead of acquiescing to the Econ Department's decision, we need to double down on the honor code. Here's how:

First, students must deal with the honor code on a more regular basis. Professors should require students to write the honor code on all graded assignments to serve as a constant reminder of our

that students report cheating - is the exception, rather than the norm. The problem is as simple as a fear of talking with a professor face-to-face to say that you have seen someone cheating. We should again follow UVA's model in addressing this by establishing an online method to report cheating. This will make peer proctoring a less onerous task, and one more likely to succeed. Additionally, to strengthen our commitment to this system of peer proctoring, we should

The Middlebury Campus

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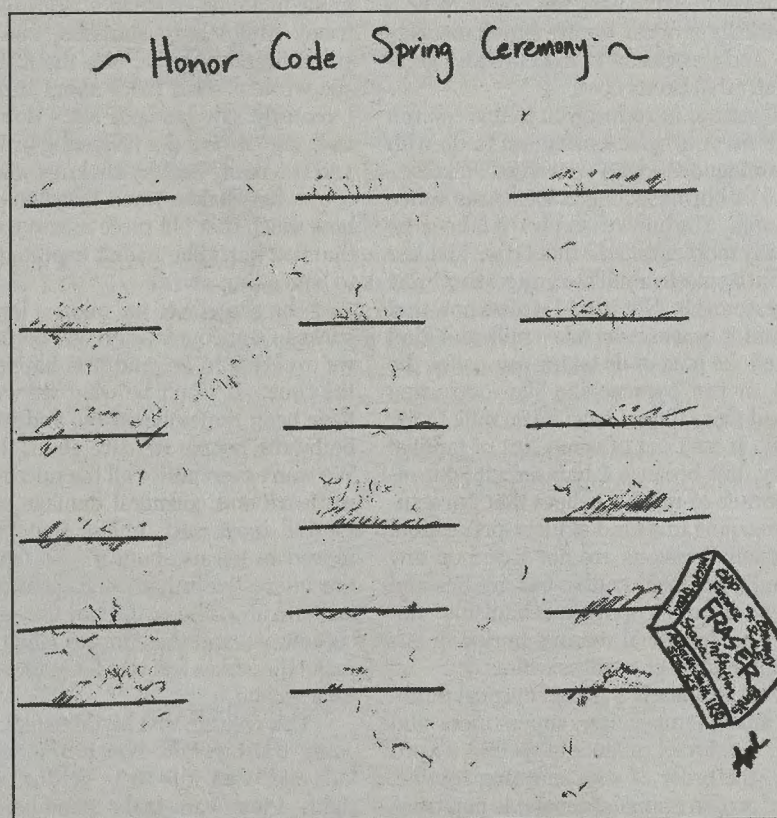
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AMR THAMEEN

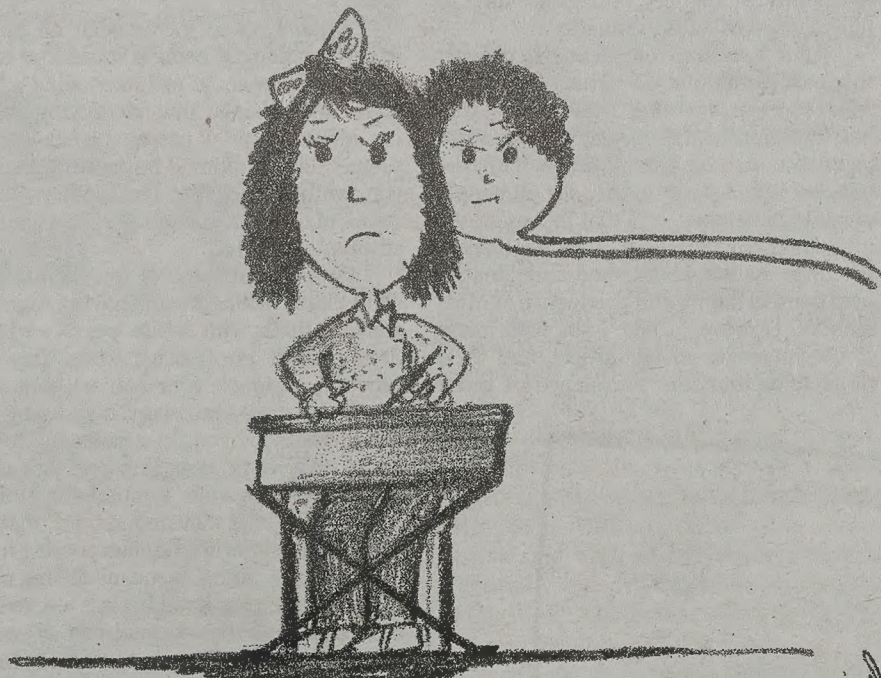
community standards. Students should re-sign the honor code at the beginning of each year. The idea should not be perceived as a forced training, as with AlcoholEdu, but as a renewal of our commitment to our community and our education. We should also install plaques with the honor code in every classroom, as they do at UVA, to serve as a visual reminder of this commitment. UVA also has an entire website dedicated to their honor code, whereas we have a page embedded within the Dean of Students' page, which explains in several places that uncontested infractions can be resolved without even a judicial hearing.

Furthermore, we all know that peer proctoring - the requirement

change the honor code from "I have neither given nor received unauthorized aid on this assignment" to "I have neither given nor received nor witnessed unauthorized aid on this assignment." While these measures may not alleviate the problem entirely, pairing them with improved enforcement just might.

We must strengthen the punishments associated with cheating if we expect the honor code to be effective. We suggest a one-strike suspension, two-strike expulsion policy. While there are gradients of cheating - accidentally misciting a source is certainly different than buying a paper online - clear-cut instances of intentional cheating should not be tolerated in our community. The underlying message would be that when you come to Middlebury, you enter a contract with the community, and this has strict expectations. We owe our peers and professors basic respect. At its core, cheating is an issue of respect. Currently, our punitive responses are insubstantial. When one person cheats, it reflects poorly on the entire community and insults those who abide by the honor code. While we recognize that Middlebury is a place meant to teach, if you choose to cheat after constantly being reminded of the honor code, this is not the place for you.

Our honor code is not broken, but it is certainly ailing. We must take this problem seriously while we are still able to fix it, lest we change the culture that makes our community as strong as it is. The changes need to be both institutional and cultural. Regardless of your major, the Economics department's decision should be a wake-up call. We need to treat the honor code like the privilege it is and hold each other accountable so this trust between faculty members and students will not be called into question this strongly again.



AMR THAMEEN

CORRECTION

Because of an editorial error, the article, "Not Like a Fifth Class" published on Feb. 13 in the Opinions section contained incorrect information regarding the author. The byline should have read, "Jeanette Cortez '15 is from Los Angeles, CA." *The Campus* regrets this error.

SUPERSTITIOUS KIDIOTS

FAKE SCIENCE

Eliza Wallace '14 is from Shepherdstown, W.Va.

Hey idiots! Does that start us out on the wrong foot? These days I've been feeling like my social filter is made out of Swiss Cheese, holes punched through with the heavy artillery of being "totally over it." I am frustrated with how seriously we take each other and bummed with how we casually dismiss our own influence over each other. You are idiots! And scummos! But also fragile Jenga towers of Babylon! And leavers of invisible legacies! And so am I. We are Taylor Swift-esque with the power to be a milli things at once. We are simultaneously gross and arrogant and insecure and great and isn't that pretty cool?

I want to introduce you to this column about anything that loosely has to do with this ambiguous idea I've termed "fake science." A boring example: I take my coffee with milk. The only reason I do it is because once my mother told me that I'd get an ulcer without a splash of milk to protect the lining of my stomach. Not true. I realize now that she said it because she takes milk and kind of liked the idea of us taking our coffee the same, or just because she likes correcting me, but since then, I have taken milk in my coffee. It isn't out of some sort of familial loyalty, but because I half-secretly-out-of-the-corner-of-my-eye believe that I'm actually engaging in a kind of ulcer-prevention. Often our decisions are not based on any generally accepted truths, but are ticks and tendencies and coping mechanisms motivated by irrational reasons buried in our formative years or rootless whims.

Fake science is folklore, magical thinking, misrememberings, superstition and myth: the correct cadence of spelling a word aloud, the order of your morning routine, fear of certain animals, debatable pop trivia remembered as fact. It is small versions of what Danny Loehr articulated in his February Celebration address this past month: the stories we tell ourselves become our reality. We adopt them and drop them, not realizing their groundlessness until years later. Sometimes they stick and continue to manifest themselves in our preferences, actions and expressions in the long run.

Sometimes we are endearing. One of my friends used to insist on only wearing cute pajamas every night in case there was a fire and she would have to evacuate

the house in the middle of the night and the cute neighbor boy would see her out in the street. Sometimes our fake science is sinister. A different friend used to obsessive compulsively knock on wood to ward off danger; another had convinced herself that her eating disorder was a vegan diet. Locating your irrationalities does not always end in exorcising them—the aim is simply to be more thoughtful. Thoughtfulness is critical because, believe it or not, someone out there is learning how to live by observing you living out a fake science, through your words or emotions. It is a very frightening and exciting responsibility. Trust me when I say: *You have an effect on other people.*

I didn't make up "idiots." It was the name of a blog active in 2010 run by some funny Middlebury students, one who is still a friend of mine. On the Kidiot blog, she wrote a short piece about turning 20. I recently saw her and she's doing really well; she owns a pet hedgehog in Brooklyn and has really healthy chakras, which were somewhat shaken when I shyly mentioned how much that old piece meant to me and thanked her. She hadn't expected anyone to be reading.

The site where we make a legacy that sticks to someone's brain will not be where we expect it to be, and it is happening all the time. It won't be what we wanted to have been remembered by, and it will not be by the people we care about the most. We won't even notice all the micro-legacies we leave and collateral damage we cause for the most part, unless that person is moved to tell us about it. So that's what I'm interested in here — the awareness of our own absurdities, the way they effect our community and the effort to reach out and make the stakes feel real for someone, even for a second.

This column isn't Mythbusters. I'm not going to always talk about how we are dumb kids and what it is we're getting wrong or right. I just want make some hazy observations and opinions on the intersection of "culture" (which is what exactly?), college students and the way we live. Most of these articles are inspired by nightmare notes I wrote to myself in the middle of the night or Gchat conversations or visions that come to me when I'm lying on the floor of my thesis carrel underneath my coat, reading Joan Didion. I'm just your neighborhood neurotic, popping an anti-anxiety Rx in Proctor and admiring your hair from the next table over. Humans! We're so crazy! It's so great, right? Lets talk about it until 4 a.m.

No Ambition? That's Ok

My parents often ask about my future and about what I'm doing to prepare for a career. Most of these conversations descend into arguments, during which they become frustrated with my steadfast uncertainty about what I want to do. During one such discussion, my father exclaimed in frustration, "Where is your ambition?"

"Honestly, I don't know. I don't know if I have any."

As can be expected, my parents were not happy. They said that bosses were going to take advantage of me, that I would never succeed and that I was doomed to a life of tedious mediocrity in a low-level career without any fulfillment.

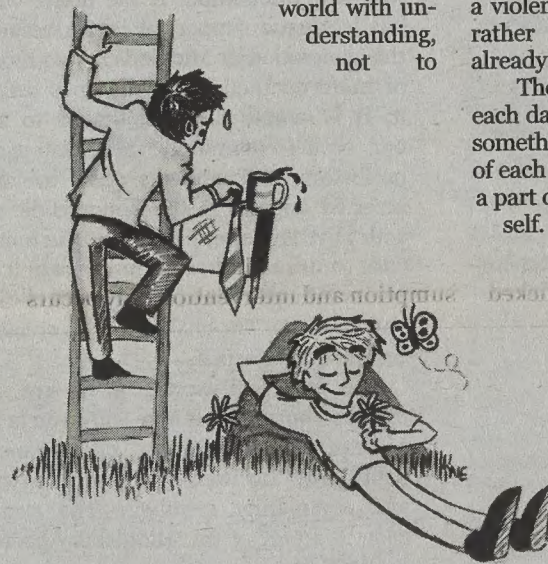
But I spoke the truth. I have very little ambition, at least in the conventional sense. Sure, I have my hopes and dreams, but I don't have the passionate urge to go farther and achieve more.

And I don't understand why this is wrong.

I have a lack of ambition because I work so hard on the present. There is nothing more for me than what I have today, because nothing else exists. Every little thing I can do to simplify my today makes each moment more peaceful and joyful.

Ambition is the desire for more. But I've never understood why it is a barometer for success in the workplace. It never stops; there is always something more that could be gained. Sure, I am motivated to move beyond poor college student status, but there is a definite endpoint to this movement in my mind. I want a life that allows

me to fill out my world with understanding, not to



achieve greatness.

We need to let some of our ambition go, to be content with where we are at each moment. The archetypal student at a college like Middlebury is highly-driven, passionate, motivated and never satisfied with what he has. But a student can be passionate without being highly driven, motivated but still satisfied. There is too much emphasis on what we don't have, and not enough on what we do have. We are rarely encouraged to enhance the lives that we already live. Too many times I have been told to go outside of my comfort zone and try new things. Obviously that is a good idea. But it has been perpetuated to an extreme. To speak metaphorically, society now encourages us so strongly to look at the world as a whole that we miss the flowers right in front of us. The lives within our comfort zones hold so much unbridled potential for learning. Our routines allow us to pass through each day half-blind, so that we miss so much. Instead of looking forward, we can look around. We can invest more attention in our classes, attempting to get as much out of them as possible—not for the sake of a degree but for the sake of better understanding ourselves and our lives. Instead of constantly casting ourselves out to find new acquaintances, we can instead attempt to establish and grow the friendships we already have. With a greater understanding of our immediate, present lives, our ability to push outward into new experiences becomes not so much a violent upheaval of what is familiar but rather a natural extension of who we already are.

The way I look at it, ambition makes each day nothing more than a step toward something greater. It undermines the value of each individual moment. It makes a day a part of a whole, rather than the whole itself.

But when we take each moment as something to be explored, investigated, enjoyed and lived for its own sake, our lives expand in turn. When we get the most out of our lives as they are now, the end result is still success. Even without ambition, you still end up with the tools to shape a career—just instead of searching for success, you search for peace. And where peace goes, contentment always follows.

It Takes More Than Just Being Here

When I read the article by Jeanette Cortez, class of 2015 and from Los Angeles, not Philadelphia, as reported in last week's

READER OP-ED

Maya Doig-Acuña '16 is from New York, N.Y.

she criticized the negative reactions of students of color to incidents of racism and began with a reference to a quote (incorrectly attributed to Debanjan Roychoudhury '16) from my friend, Victor Filpo '16 that "being a student of color at Middlebury is kind of like taking a fifth class." Jeanette directly opposed this quote, writing, "being a student of color at Middlebury means nothing more than that you are a student of color at Middlebury." When I read this, I felt a swell of

frustration spread inside my chest. First, the fifth class quote was out of context, and second, her statement dismissed the very real discrimination faced by students of color at Middlebury, and their efforts to fight against that discrimination.

After hearing from Jeanette directly this past Sunday at an African American Alliance (AAA) meeting, I understand that her intention in writing the op-ed was to express a different perspective than the one she feels usually speaks for all people of color on campus, and that to her, seems negative. I appreciate her voice and respect whatever beliefs about race and identity help her feel happy and productive at Middlebury. However, I take issue with many of the messages in her article, and even more than that, the prevalence of those

sentiments within the greater Middlebury community: essentially, that the brown people on campus keep complaining about petty issues and should just be happy to be here.

When I asked Victor what he meant when he said that being a student of color at Middlebury could feel like taking a fifth class, he explained that identifying or being identified as a person of color often seemed like additional homework; he was constantly expected to teach others about issues of race and even fix deeply seated institutional racism.

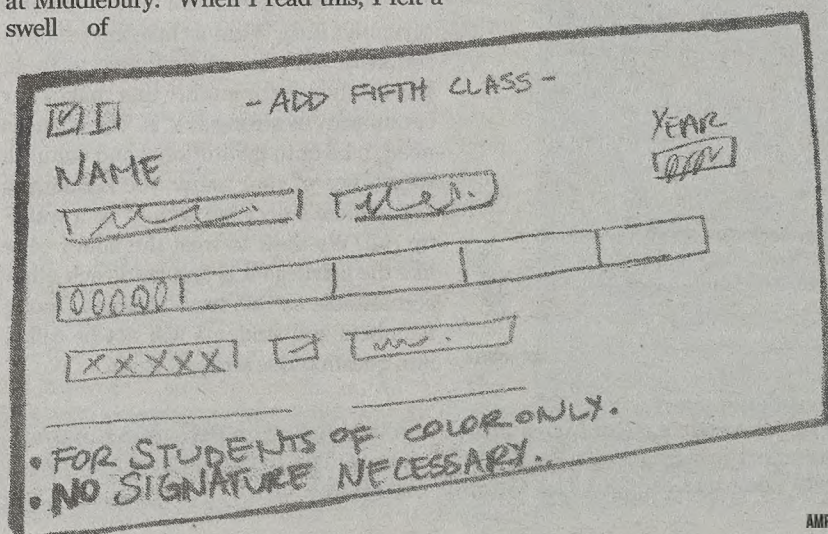
For me and some of my friends, this "fifth class" feeling means having to pause conversations with white peers and tell them why it is offensive when they say "ghetto," or touch your hair without asking, or ask what your story is and how you got to Middlebury. It means having to listen to professors when they pull you aside after class and, with sympathetic smiles, reassure you that they understand "that it's hard to keep up with the class coming from where you're from." It means feeling obligated to raise your hand in class after a student explained that societal fear of young black men makes sense because "way more black guys do and sell drugs and kill people to, you know, feed their families." It means the weight of guilt swirling around in your head when you decide that this time, you don't want to raise your hand.

It's okay if these kinds of moments do not make every student of color feel uncomfortable, unhappy or burdened. It's okay if not every student of color, when faced with these interactions, feels as though it nega-

tively affects their Middlebury experience. It does not necessarily have to. However, I'll be damned if anyone says that a student of color who does feel this way shouldn't.

People have a right to their own anger, frustration and exhaustion. Yes, we are at Middlebury—a school that we are constantly reminded is an "elite" institution, surrounded by a beautiful Vermont landscape and fixed with certain lifestyle privileges that many of us do not get anywhere else. Yes, we are here, but by no means do we always have to be happy about it. Because typical Middlebury descriptors like our elite status, the Vermont outdoors and a privileged lifestyle—food when we want it, cleanliness without having to clean, etc.—hold different meaning for different people.

When students of color decide to point out and change some of the structural and individual racism at our school, it is out of an effort to shape this institution into a more inclusive and safe one, both for current and future students. It is dismissive and inaccurate to describe these voices, these calls for action, as complaints or even as barriers to the success of students of color. In fact, many of the students I know who are most active around issues of race and social justice on campus are doing quite well here academically. These students are not making "extra obstacles for themselves," but instead trying to remove obstacles that already exist, so that other students may pass through Middlebury more freely, less burdened and with the kind of fifth class that only comes with an orange add card.



AMR THAMEEN

Trust Us: We Can Handle It

READER OP-ED

Jeremy Kallan '14 is
from Washington, D.C.

Here at Middlebury, we live by an extensive set of rules. Some are necessary to maintain our safety, but many are superfluous and actively undermine our autonomy as students.

A student body that lacks agency also lacks community standards. I simply propose that we deserve more trust. The presence of a doubtful watchdog inherently creates an antagonistic relationship. Only through an environment of mutual trust — and it must go both ways — can we truly thrive as a community. If the expectations for the student body were set higher, I have no doubt that we rise to the occasion. As it stands, we act like children because we are treated as such.

I have had this feeling since arriving here and have heard it from many mouths, but I am compelled to express it only now. A good friend of mine told a surprising story about the 100 Days party that broke my camel's back (to read his full story, check out middbeat.org, a student-run blog). Fed up with the level of control imposed upon our senior class at a party organized in our honor, he purposely and impulsively broke a rule and was booted from the building. To be fair, he was acting like a drunken fool, but sober reflection has shown him the error of his ways.

The rule he broke — no water on the dance floor — is entirely justified and necessary for maintaining safety. Three people went to the hospital after slipping on the wet dance floor at the 200 Days party. His actions, however, were motivated by the generally draconian enforcement of rules that undermined trust. For example, I watched a reasonably sober friend be kicked

out for drunkenness after tripping while removing her high heels. This is fairly characteristic of many experiences with Public Safety. The music is always too loud; there are always too many minors; the punch gets dumped down the drain; I can't drink a beer on my own porch. Don't get me wrong, I had a great time at the party, especially while consuming the free food and booze provided by our generous buddies in the Administration. However, I would have liked to enjoy my beer in the space between the Grille and the Social Space. I would have liked to step outside briefly for a breath of fresh air.

Neither of these things were allowed, but why? Are there significantly more risks associated with trusting us to make appropriate decisions about alcohol on our own? If given the opportunity, would we take advantage of these simple freedoms to our own detriment? Personally, I have more trust in us.

Call me an optimist, but a policy of trust seems to work elsewhere. Take Haverford College as an example. Here's an excerpt from their Honor Code: "As Haverford students, we seek an environment in which members of a diverse community can live together, interact and learn from one another in ways that protect both personal freedom and community standards... We uphold the Code by engaging with the values upon which our community depends: mutual trust, concern, and respect for oneself, one another and the community."

An institution renowned for the strength and pervasive nature of its honor code, Haverford holds a trusting policy toward alcohol—students are held to a higher standard, responsible for monitoring their own consumption and intervention only occurs

when students ask for help. The result is a happier and safer environment not only for drinking, but also for social life in general. Granted, this claim is based solely on anecdotal evidence from friends.

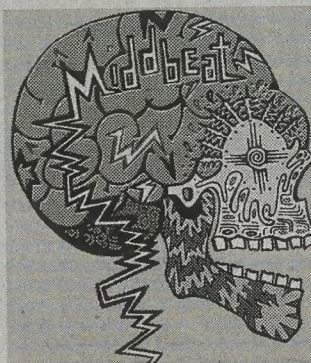
While I work on gathering some empirical evidence to prove this point, let's try imagining a Middlebury with this kind of trust. Students should have more autonomy to make personal decisions and hold more agency regarding their social life. At the very least, it would be nice to know the reason behind the rule, just as you might tell a child, "Don't hit because hitting isn't nice." Administrative intervention should only occur where there is an immediate and preventable threat to safety. I recognize that, to some, this may seem like a pretty bold proposition. Indeed, if taken literally, it has some huge implications for the College's policies.

Rather than paint that whole picture right now, I want to imagine a 100 Days party that follows these guidelines. We are allowed to exit and re-enter the party. Some may take this opportunity for over-consumption of alcohol (they probably did anyway) while others simply take a break for fresh air, a cigarette or healthy consumption of alcohol in a different location.

We are allowed to exit the Grille and be in the gallery with alcoholic beverages to maximize the area for socializing while consuming. We are still not allowed to take drinks onto the dance floor as this poses an immediate and preventable threat to safety. Everyone has a better time and rises to the expectation that we will act like adults.

It sounds reasonable to me, but is it feasible? That is a question to which I have no answer, so I would like to pose it to you. After hearing my friend's story, I suppressed my initial instinct to write a wordy and confrontational email to someone important (hopefully you're reading this now) and opted to try and start a conversation instead. I have heard countless people express frustration about this issue, and I think it's time to do something about it. This will start with a conversation, whether it be late at night among friends or in the next Board of Trustees meeting. Read the full story on middbeat and comment—hopefully such a forum can help serve as a venue to begin considering this idea:

Do we deserve more trust? Does a lack of autonomy inhibit the development of strong community standards?



Read the full article, unabridged and uncensored online at middbeat.org.

Share your thoughts on these questions:

Do students deserve more trust? Does a lack of autonomy inhibit the development of strong community standards?

FAITH AND LIBERAL EDUCATION

THE UNPOPULAR OPINION

Andrew DeFalco '15-5
is from Toronto, Canada.

I am sure that many of you, like me, fall into certain familial rituals after spending a few days back home on break. Laundry is done in collective family-sized loads, your normal dinner schedule is thrown horribly out of sync or perhaps you must perpetually update your parents as to your whereabouts, even if you are just running out to the corner store. Yes, all the old familiar

childhood traditions come flooding back no matter how old you are. As good and grateful children, I am sure we all go along with the rules of the house. Well, at least some of them.

I was raised Catholic, and everyone in my family is a practicing Catholic. Back in Sicily, the old country, we have found the Catholic Church where our great-grandparents knelt and prayed. We are of that unique old breed that blends culture and religious tradition into a humorous and often comforting way of life. Our Christmas Eves are filled with seven different types of fish (don't ask me why) and our Easters

always feature enough lamb to feed a family twice the size of ours. Certain cookies are made at certain types of the year for certain festivals and feast days and I am sure it all seems very quaint. The cultural Catholic overtones in my family were present for a solid eighteen years of my life, and I never much questioned the process, from baptism to communion to confirmation. Yet, I was not surprised in the least to look back at my two years in college and find I have never once gone to Mass of my own accord. Meanwhile the Sunday morning ritual of Mass in my home has become remarkably more difficult to justify, even if only to please my mother.

What precipitated my spiritual deterioration? Was I never really spiritual to begin with? Was it all just pomp and circumstance associated with familial custom? We all adjust ourselves to the newfound freedoms of college in some manner or another, yet shouldn't faith be a source of comfort and stability in a new environment? Now to be fair, I still call myself Catholic and probably will continue identifying that way. I just don't go to Mass. It still counts though, right? In fact, the more and more I reflect critically on my faith I find I have little issue with much of what Jesus Christ said and moreover find myself spiritually moved by reading passages in the Bible. The actual going to Church seems to be the problem.

I will never make the claim that liberal education leads students to atheism or agnosticism. It does, however, nurture a deep sense of critical and analytic interpretation in us. This is not held to the books, articles or journals we experience in the classroom but is employed in everything we interact with like media, art or human opinion. My faith is not exempt from critical in-

terpretation, nor should it be. My issue with Catholicism is not that I do not find it to be spiritually motivating; it is that I am asked to put aside my own powers of interpretation in favor of a priest's. As a man of faith, I seem to be relegated to listener instead of active participant. At times this is not an issue. I have heard Jesuits and incredibly intelligent priests make connections in Biblical text that I would not otherwise have made. I find it more difficult to sit through an hour of Church when I am asked to listen to a point of view and consider it, while giving no response.

My liberal education seems to get me in trouble in my perfect world, though it should not. As I am sure many of you have seen in the news, Pope Francis has made quite a stir in renewing a community and poverty focus in the Catholic Church. He inspires me and makes me want to revisit and re-experience my faith. Pope Francis, though, has shown that he is capable of interpreting doctrine differently than what was once set in stone, has combatted some of the more hierarchical extravagances of the Vatican. He presents a reinvented version of Catholicism the world sorely needs, a Church focused on service, moderation and dedication to fighting poverty.

My faith is not perfect; there is a laundry list of issues and political stances I, and many others, are quick to identify as wrong. Gay marriage, abstinence and women's rights are all things that are in dire need of improvement. I would like to not let these things discount my faith project as a whole. My hope is that a liberal education can amplify my faith, and allow me to seek and discover why I actually consider myself a Catholic, rather than just considering it a cultural identity.



THOMAS WILLIAMS



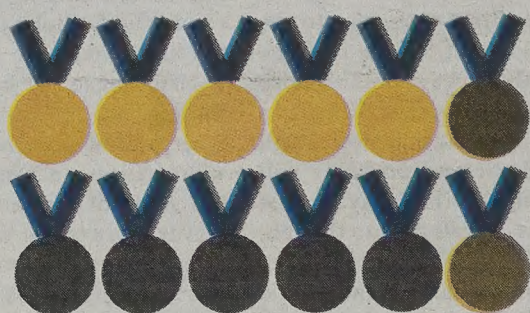
THE COLLEGE ON THE HILL

Though Sochi might be over 5,000 miles from our home here in Vermont, Middlebury's connection to the home of this year's Winter Olympics may not be as far as you think. Since the 1940s, the College's Snow Bowl and Rikert Center have produced some of the nation's most impressive nordic and alpine skiers. This year, the College has

five alumni at the Olympics: Nordic ski racer Simeon "Simi" Hamilton '08, men's US Alpine Ski Team coach Forest Carey '00, US Nordic Ski Team coach Matt Whitcomb '01, women's US Alpine Ski Team trainer Brie Pike Sprenger '04, and US Alpine Ski Team strength and conditioning coach Bobby Poehler '10. We even have an Olympian in our midst, alpine skier

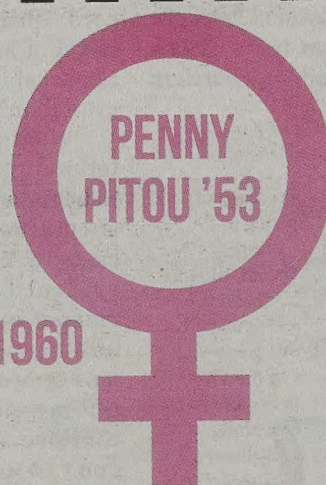
Yina Moe-Lange '15 who went to the 2010 Vancouver Olympics! This week, the Campus caught up with some of these talented athletes and other former Olympians from the College to learn about their journeys from tiny Middlebury to the premier world stage of athletics.

MIDDLEBURY MEDALISTS



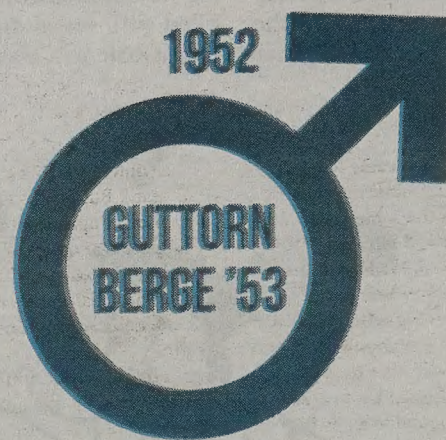
CHRIS WADDELL '91
MOST DECORATED OLYMPIAN
FOR THE COLLEGE

Won twelve medals in four Paralympic games (1992-2002) in sit-skiing and wheelchair track events including five gold medals, five silver and two bronze.



1960

THE COLLEGE'S FIRST FEMALE
OLYMPIC MEDALIST



1952

THE COLLEGE'S FIRST
MALE OLYMPIC MEDALIST

#1

BECKY FRASER '46

was the first Olympian to have graduated from Middlebury College. She attended the 1948 Winter Olympics in St. Moritz, Switzerland

NORDIC
SKIING

CLASS OF 1987

DORCAS W

ALPINE
SKIING

CLASS OF 1962

GORDON

NORDIC
SKIING

CLASS OF 1963

JOHN E

ALPINE
SKIING

CLASS OF 2015

YINA MO

NORDIC
SKIING

CLASS OF 2008

SIMI HA

ALPINE
SKIING

CLASS OF 1987

CHRIS W

MOST DECORA
MALE SKIER
PARALYMPI
HISTORY



RCAS WONSavage



GORDON EATON



JOHN BOWER



YINA MOE-LANGE



SIMI HAMILTON



CHRIS WADDELL

ST DECORATED
ALE SKIER IN
PARALYMPIC
HISTORY

Wonsavage '87 has competed in three Olympic Games: Calgary in '88, Albertville in '92 and Lillehammer in '94. From Hanover, New Hampshire, she began Cross-Country skiing in her senior year of high school. "Give the world your best that you have and the best will come back to you," she recalled the quote she lived by. "I had parents who always told me 'we don't care what grades you get, we just want you to learn what you want to learn.' It wasn't about results or grades—and it was so liberating and that created a vacuum where I didn't have huge expectations set upon me. But I wanted to prove them wrong."

Even while directing her attention to passion rather than tallied victories, she delivers real results: She ranked 8 in Calgary '88 women's 4x5 kilometers relay race. Her best result was a 24th place in the women's 20km skate race at Calgary—the top result of any U.S. or Canadian Cross-Country skier.

"I guess I just like going fast," said Olympian Gordon Eaton '62, of why he enjoyed competing in downhill alpine skiing, which is the fastest and therefore most dangerous alpine Olympic event. Eaton spent seven years as a student at Middlebury College because every other year he would take off to ski race on the world circuit. His experience skiing at the College was immensely defined by another Olympian: US Olympic Ski Team coach (Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy '56) and Middlebury ski coach Robert "Bobo" Sheehan, whom Eaton describes as the best race day coach he ever had.

"We were always prepared, always eager, always fired up," remembers Eaton, "and a lot of it had to do with Bobo's char-

acter and personality. Everybody liked skiing for Bobo." Eaton's hard work on and off the snow landed him a spot on the US Ski Team for the 1960 and 1964 Winter Olympics. In 1960 in Squaw Valley, Calif., he placed 17th in the downhill event, having the second best time of the American competitors. In 1964 in Innsbruck, Austria, he did not race due to injury. The experience of being unable to compete was disappointing to Eaton, but as he said, "You go into this understanding that there are gonna be bumps and bruises along the way, so it's all part of the deal."

Luckily, Eaton had the opportunity to return to the Olympics in 1968 in Grenoble, France; this time as a men's coach

taining composure under pressure would help him perform better in his second Olympics, but he was still "trying too hard to win", and placed 13th.

Only one month later, however, Bower competed in the King's Cup in Norway against the same field of athletes. In this final competition of his career, he became the first non-European to win the cup. In Norway, Bower "figured out how to relax" and enjoy racing in a way that he had never managed to in the Olympics. As the champion, Bower met the king of Norway, who was "very congratulatory" and put Bower on his list of requested guests for a state dinner in the king's honor at the White House. Bower described the black tie affair as "one

tremely happy since I had made it down and had accomplished what most people only dream of doing," she said. For her, the point was the surreality of the experience and the memories she made at the Games.

Now, Moe-Lange is competing for the Middlebury Alpine Ski Team, and the league in which the College competes "is about as competitive as you can get without becoming professional," she said.

Balancing school and skiing is always a tricky maneuver, especially for Moe-Lange, who remains determined to devote one hundred percent into academics and athletics alike.

"The hardest part of it is having to complete everything you

Free. Since 2010, Hamilton has been a consistent scorer on the World Cup circuit, placing as high as seventh and earning him a spot on the 2014 US Nordic Ski Team. In Sochi, Hamilton placed 21st in the Men's Sprint Free on February 11 and 11th in Men's 4x10km Relay on February 16.

"Everyone who's reading this has probably had that experience at some point in their life of really wanting to do things over again," commented Hamilton about his 11th place finish on his blog. "That's pretty much where I'm at with how the sprint turned out. But what I've realized in the last few days

February of 1992, Waddell became a full-time athlete, competing in the Paralympics in Albertville, France.

Winning silver medals in both his events, Slalom and Giant Slalom, in Albertville, Waddell launched in on what he calls his "breakthrough year." "The year where I felt like I got good, and actually became the best Monoskier in the world, which was pretty cool," he said nonchalantly.

In the 1994 Lillehammer, Norway Games, Waddell won all four races he entered – Slalom, Giant Slalom, Super G and Downhill.

Lillehammer remains the most significant Games in Waddell's career because he beat all the other monoskiers—not just those at his level of sensation. Monoskiing is divided into levels based on what vertebrae the athlete has broken and the corresponding degrees of sensation retained. Waddell skis at a higher level of injury, with sensation starting at his belly button. He lacks a great amount of core strength compared to other monoskiers, some of whom still maintain walking abilities. Therefore, rising to the top of the monoskiing heap, in Lillehammer meant more to Waddell than his medal count.

But Waddell's athleticism did not confine him to winter sports; his talent in wheelchair racing, a component of his dryland training, allowed him to compete in three summer Games as well. Waddell's wheelhouse was massive, encompassing six events: the 100, 200, 400 and 800 meters, as well as the 4x100 and 4x400 relays. Waddell competed in the 1996

marshmallows for their kids. We were from a country where our sport was overshadowed by the ball sports; but in Norway even when we finished in the second page of the results, they'd cheer us on by name."

Wonsavage now lives in New Hampshire with her husband, Paul, and son, Max. Twenty years after the Lillehammer Olympics, she is still taking on new challenges, going back to school to get her masters in Education - Teaching of Writing, and never forgetting her Middlebury teammates, professors and coaches who constantly challenged her and made the journey fun. "I had my best results in my first Olympics, when I had no expectations and skied just to do my very best. I try to bring that same combination of humility and a sense of humor to everything I do. I love accomplishing something that no one expected me to do."

of the US Ski Team. After his Olympic experience, Eaton coached the Alpine ski team at the College from 1975-1978. Today, he lives in Middlebury and owns a restaurant, sells ski clothing to ski vendors and participates in ski design with K2. In his free time, Eaton still likes to ski at his old training hill, the Middlebury College Snow Bowl, and will sometimes meet up with his college racing buddies. "Going to the Olympics was awesome," said Eaton, "but it's the journey and the people along the way that still have real meaning to you [years later]."

of the most intimidating experiences of my athletic career. It's a whole different level of social interaction."

Bower returned to Middlebury to coach fall Cross-Country, winter Nordic skiing and spring Track for seven years. He saw several of his skiers go on to make Olympic teams, including Joe McNulty '72. "There are a lot of distractions at Middlebury," Bower admits, and it is the students that make sacrifices to stay focused and disciplined who are generally successful. Bower went on to serve as the Nordic team leader for the 1976, 1980, and 1992 Olympic Games, and to work as the Nordic program director for the US ski team in Park City, Utah. He is now retired and lives in Moab, Utah with his wife, Bonnie.

want to do while also doing a good job on everything, since both parts are so important," she said.

But Moe-Lange is still thankful to be a Panther. She credits the College with teaching her the "magic of time management" and allowing her to converge the important things in her life. Her team, which she describes as a family, has allowed her to improve her skiing while simultaneously "bring[ing] out the best athlete in everyone."

At this point, Moe-Lange has no concrete future plans beyond finishing her final year as a Panther and then taking a year off before "entering the real world to continue pursuing the dream."

since the race, is that I do get to do it over again, because there are going to be SO many more races—Olympic races, World Cup races, World Championship races—ahead of me in the future."

For now, Simi gets to enjoy the privilege of being in the company of the best athletes in the world. He said on his blog of the experience, "to be part of a larger team—not just an American team but a World team—is the most awesome feeling that exists, I'm pretty sure."

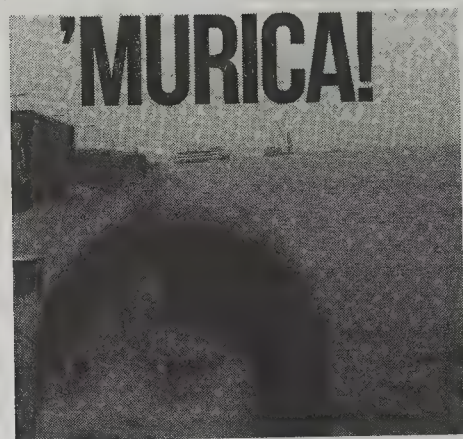
Atlanta Games, won the silver in the 200 meters in the 2000 Sydney Games, and appeared in the 2004 Games in Athens, Greece. His success in wheelchair racing has made Waddell one of the few athletes who have won World Championship competitions in winter and summer.

Since retiring his ski, Waddell has developed an organization called One Revolution, whose mission is to "turn perception of disability upside down," he said.

"The definition of 'disability' is that you're effectively something less," Waddell said. In an attempt to overturn this conventional understanding of the term and to spread One Revolution's message, Waddell climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in a hand cycle in 2009, aiming to become the first paraplegic to climb the peak.

But the trip went differently than he planned. Obstructed by one rocky outcropping, Waddell was disappointed that his team had to carry him 100 feet to a steadier place. Looking back, he believes the obstacle was rather a blessing, as it shattered the superheroic image that had shadowed him since leaving the hospital in Middlebury.

"A superhero never has a bad day, so [that image] didn't allow me to be real," Waddell said. "Not making it that hundred feet was actually the most liberating thing; in some ways, I failed, but it was also the greatest gift because it allowed me to distance myself from the superman doppelganger."



By Joy Zhu

A developed city should also have a developed culture. Hong Kong does not have one. In *In Search of Hong Kong Culture*, Lee Oufan, a renowned Chinese academic, described how academics from mainland China marveled upon visiting the Central Library, Hong Kong's biggest library. And yet all the books were only for show.

To support a diversified culture, we need to embrace plurality.

Hong Kong's culture is monolithic: intolerant of alternative choices and differences. Our TV is oligopolized by two TV channels. Mainstream journalism is dominated by tabloid and sensational journalism. Culture thrives in a society that allows different perspectives to collide. Yet, as the recent influx of mainland immigrants has strengthened our notion of local identity has strengthened, causing our society to be more polemic.

If a culture doesn't allow for plurality, then how is it different from the politicized culture of Mao's time? If there were no opinions exchanged in a rational manner, how can we be provoked into thinking or be comfortable in expressing our opinions?

According to the commentator Leung Man To, because of the emphasis of financial returns, the culture of Hong Kong has been polemicized: on one end, there are the experimental and avant-garde arts, which thrive because of those who insist on these ventures. On the other end, mainstream soaps and movies monopolize media, which can be predictable and crudely made. Despite alternative medias blossoming due to government crackdowns in mainstream media, they are not financially well-endowed enough to glean a large audience. Not only does the lack of choice render our thinking unsophisticated, it is also stifling to dissidents.

In pursuit of a more pluralistic culture, Man To suggests that we should place ourselves in a larger and more worldly context — such as becoming a part of mainland China — in order to develop diversity of perspectives.

In my opinion, a liberal education would be an effective solution as it teaches us how to be reasonable and take on nuanced perspectives, despite the prevalence of sensationalism.

I believe my humanities education would provide me with the ability to look at the world rationally and critically and add to the plurality of my culture. And yet, ironically, I don't feel that our liberal education allows me to see the plurality of culture at Middlebury.

There are many passionate individuals, yet I don't feel like there is much room for us to contest our opinions and perspectives outside of the classroom, despite our relative diversity. Although there are many talks, debates and opinion blogs, opinions are rarely openly exchanged in an informal manner.

It is important because we live separate lives outside of classrooms and formal debates. If these conversations are not carried into real life, they become trivial, unreal and meaningless. Maybe it's awkward to talk about sensitive topics in person. There should be more communal spaces devoted to the sole purpose of providing room for comfortable conversation. While the indoors can feel quite forbidding, the outdoors would be a good location, if we did not need to humor the whims of nature.

The Middlebury stereotype is that there is no stereotypical Middkid. Is that because we are too diverse, or is it because of our geographical location? Or that we are too involved in our own activities to look for a sense of communal identity that would make us identify with this place? I guess we are like Hong Kong in a sense. To put it in economics jargon — we have a lot of human capital, but not enough entrepreneurship. Will we always be separate individuals, not a diverse but collective whole?

Bio-methane Purchase Stirs Criticism

By Hye-Jin Kim

With the 2016 deadline of carbon neutrality looming closer, the College's alternative energy profile is more diversified than ever. We're powered by sun, wind, trees and now... cow manure? Fear not, the odorless gas produced from the quintessential Vermont scent won't force you to hold your breath on campus. And, for the expected 40 percent reduction in carbon emissions, the College thought it was an alternative energy worth sniffing out.

Bio-methane is an odorless and carbon-neutral fuel that will replace 640,000 gallons of number 6 fuel oil that the College currently burns to meet campus energy demands. Goodrich Farm, about 7 miles away from campus in Salisbury, VT, has contracted with a private developer of Integrated Energy Systems to build a digester on their farm that would produce bio-methane, a dry bedding material and a liquid fertilizer — all derived from mixture of mostly cow manure and corn.

Professor of environmental science Marc Lapin brought up the agricultural consequences of increased bio-methane demand.

"One thing bio-methane does is that it continues to support a non-sustainable agriculture production of massive milk production based on a lot of corn and industrial agriculture that produces greenhouse gases," Lapin said. "If that system is going to persist, I think it's better to make fuel out of it that continue to spread excess nutrients on the land and on the surface of the soil that are washing into the water. Producing bio-methane is a better solution than how most manure is handled now."

In the early planning stages, the bio-methane project had both logistical and economic issues with on-campus storage and transportation. But with the convenient and timely approval of the construction of Phase I of the Vermont Gas pipeline — Addison Rutland Natural Gas Project — bio-methane became a feasible option for the College.

Environmental controversy surrounding the VT Gas pipeline persists as a result alleged fracked gas that the infrastructure will transport. Jake Nonweiler '14.5, who did his senior research project on the pipeline last fall, mentioned reasons for widespread local concern about the pipeline.

"Environmental impacts of the pipeline will be significant, but I think it depends on your point of view," Nonweiler said. "A lot of people think the pipeline isn't a good idea because it's still carrying fracked gas from Canada. So even if it's not coming from Vermont, it's still not appropriate to go through Vermont, which is a valid concern. But a lot of companies, like International Paper, one of their reasons for doing it is they're going to see huge carbon reductions [using natural gas], instead of buying fuel oil."

In addition to concerns over fracking, the total proposed pipeline route — Phases I, II, and III — from Canada to an International Paper mill in Ticonderoga, NY, will run through private property and residences in Vermont. According to the Vermont Gas website, the majority of business owners and residents besides those in Middlebury and Vergennes will not be able to tap into Phase I of the pipeline for local energy use until after 2016.

Despite these outside concerns, the College chose to support the construction of Phase I of the pipeline, keeping in mind how the infrastructure would benefit both the bio-methane project and the local economy due to the low price of natural gas compared to fuel oil.

"I feel that the College was not that big of a piece of it [the approval of Phase I]," Nonweiler said. "Vermont Gas had so many supporters and customers that are going to access that pipeline that the College was kind of like an addendum, an additional supporter but not the main supporter that made the pipeline happen."

"Powerful economic interests wanted it [permit of Phase I] to go through," Lapin said. "Even if the College had gone

against it, it still would've gone through."

In response to the possible hypocrisy the College faces by using the controversial pipeline, Byrne said "we'll be burning some of the gas that came from elsewhere [fracked gas from Canada], but we're not buying that gas. We're buying the bio-methane that's going into the pipeline."

Nate Cleveland '16.5, a member of the Carbon Neutrality committee on the Environmental Council said that environmental sustainability transcends the College.

"It's great to be a proponent of global sustainability and global carbon neutrality, but you can't expect a small liberal arts college to do that by itself," he said. "I think the first step into doing that mission of global carbon neutrality is getting the campus carbon neutral."

Lapid said that the carbon cycle is everywhere; it is hubris to think that carbon can be controlled. However, he noted some goals the bio-methane project could accomplish.

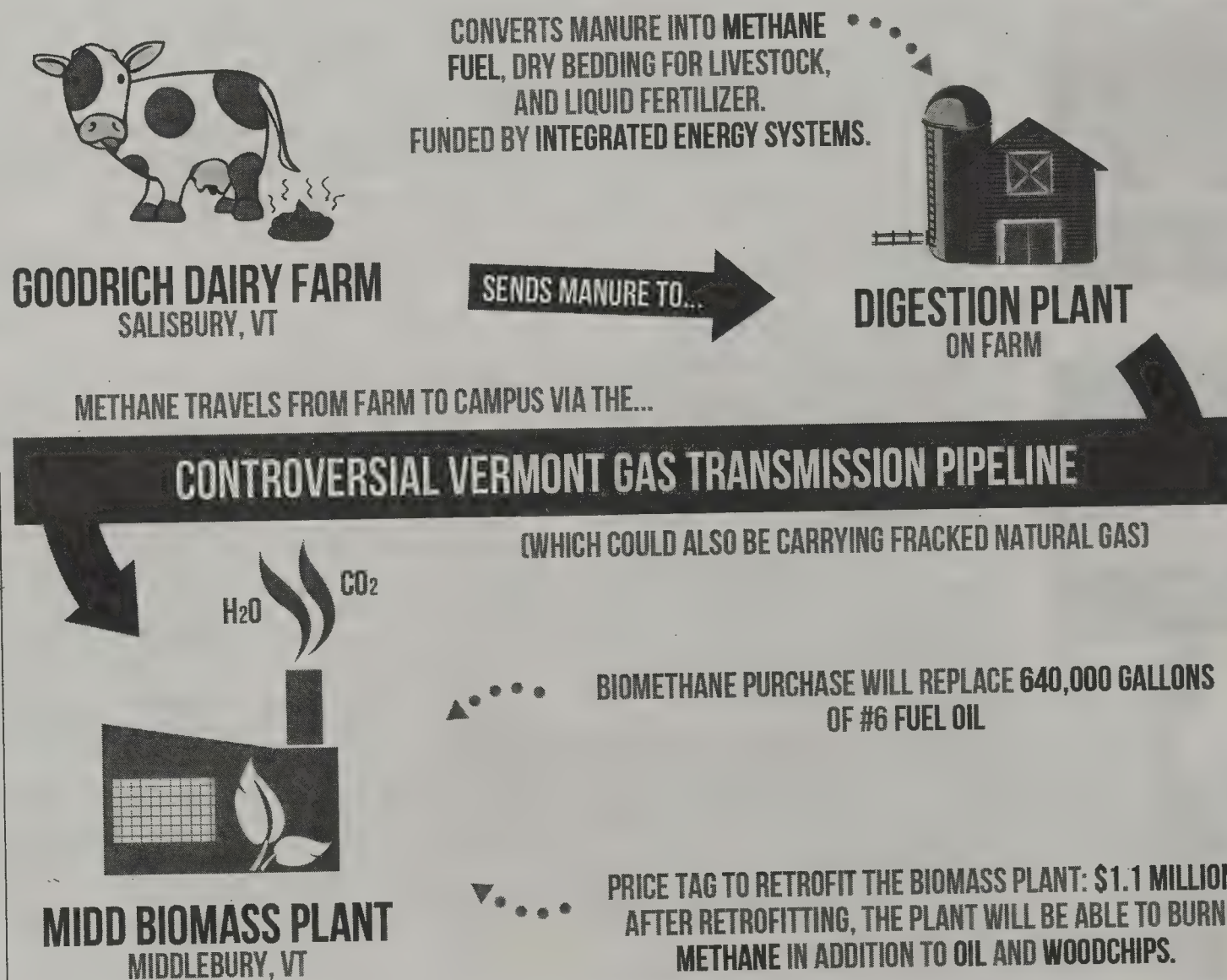
"What responsibility in global carbon neutrality can an institution like a College take?" he asked. "Education and demonstration. Is demonstrating that you can use manure for heating buildings a good thing, given the way our systems are? Yes."

Byrne added that there is potential for further benefit by the pipeline to be available to farms who want to produce bio-methane.

"In the agreement with the public service board, the Vermont gas company is required to make the pipeline available for other bio-methane projects," he said. "On balance, this is a good thing."

Overall, Lapid said that it was a complex issue.

"Looking at it from an energy and pollution point of view, it makes sense," he said. "Looking at it from the agricultural systems point of view, there's something wrong... Is the College goal of carbon neutrality worth all these trade-offs?"



DESIGN BY OLIVIA ALLEN

How to Make a Broomball Court Freeze

By Joe Flaherty

How do you make an ice rink out of nothing but a stretch of grass on a quad? As difficult as it might sound, every February, the Facilities Landscape Services staff makes it happen, albeit with a little improvisation.

With winter weather unpredictable in Vermont, Facilities staff have to be simultaneously flexible and persistent. Things do not always go according to plan. An original attempt to construct the broomball court outside McCullough Hall met warmer weather in the second week of J-term. On Jan. 21, the Landscaping crew was out in sub-zero temperatures to take another approach during week three.

Clinton "Buzz" Snyder, supervisor of Landscape Services, explained how the broomball court is usually constructed in advance of Winter Carnival and how this year is something of a trial run.

"We're out here trying something different this year," Snyder said. "Normally what they do is they plow off an area to get all the snow off and the guys will come in at two in the morning. They'll stand there with an inch and a half hose and just sprinkle it and let it freeze."

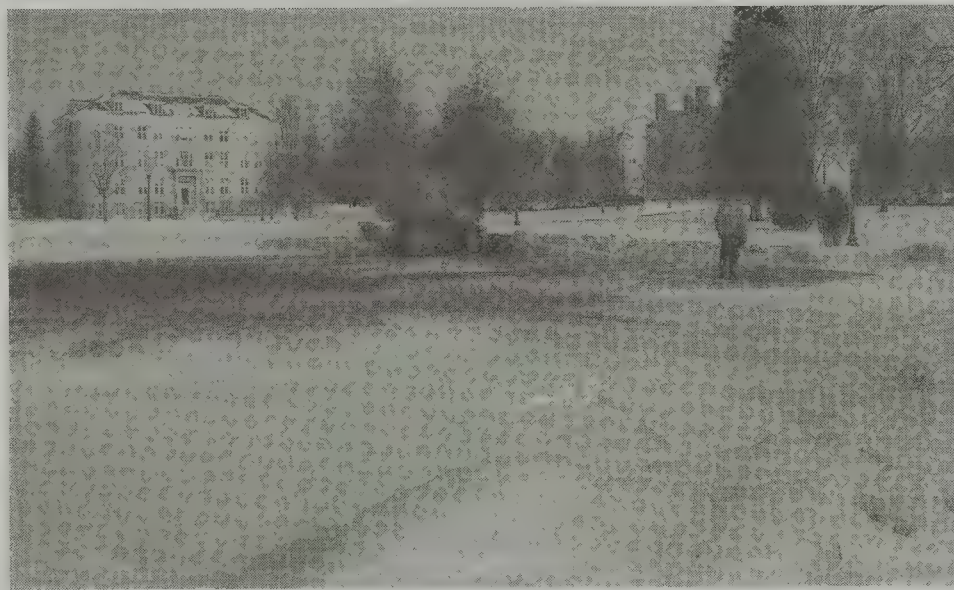
This method is heavy on effort, not to mention the time-commitment in the cold.

John Quelch, a crew chief for Landscape Services, who was surveying the court nearby, said that the old method took several days of spraying water on the court to prepare it for skaters or broomball aficionados.

"[It took] two to three days of doing that, just spritzing it," Snyder said. "So we are trying something different."

The team had used a tractor to recreate the snowbanks around the court that had melted the week prior and were preparing to add the water.

"We plowed up some banks, and we're going to try to flood it with a fire hose," Snyder



Facilities staff prepare the broomball court outside McCullough Hall for student use.

said.

A fire hose, hooked up to a hydrant near Old Chapel Road, was pumping water onto the grass that would soon be the ice rink.

The new method was not without its snags.

"We're running into some difficulties because we knew [the ground] was going to be uneven," Snyder said. Trying to create an even surface over slush was too difficult.

"We're going to have to go around and hit it with more water in different areas and let it freeze and come back and pour more water on top," Snyder said. "It takes a while because it is uneven. See the high spot by that lamp? The low spot down here? It may look level to the eye but once water hits it, water tells you everything," referring

to how when the water runs over the slush, it instantly shows where the ground is not flat.

Undismayed, Snyder said the Landscaping team had a plan.

"We're going to get the tractor over here and do some more banking," he said.

Quelch would man the tractor, pushing snow out of the center of the court and onto the banks in order to have the fire hose laying down water on grass as opposed to slush. The team had originally just set the fire hose on the ground, but Snyder said that strategy was quickly shelved.

"It went crazy on us, so we've got to hold onto it and move it around," he said.

All this effort, Snyder said, is ultimately for the students and their Winter Carnival enjoyment.

"We're going to get John to get the snow off, because we really ought to start with just grass. See how we are getting slush on the top? And then that freezes too rough for them to play," he said. "It's just broomball, but once in a while people get out there with skates."

BEHIND THE M-VEST

Style Icon: Gudas, eBay Bargain Queen

By Mary Claire Ecclesine

eBay. Everyone is familiar with it, understands what it is used for and most likely has been on it themselves or has known someone that has. The website is most popularly known for selling things like old furniture, vintage cars, NFL jerseys and objects of that sort. However, what you probably didn't know is that eBay has an expansive array of designer clothing for sale. In fact, eBay has an entire section specifically designated to fashion where you can buy anything from the new Prada bag to Eddie Bauer Women's flannel lined jeans. I can guarantee you there is something for every type of style on that website.

I first heard about shopping on eBay from Middlebury's very own Kathleen Gudas '16.5. Gudas has a natural eye for fashion and is always seen looking very put together. I would describe her style as classic vintage. She wears lots of patterns and bright colors but in a very casual way.

"I loves comfy clothing: jeans, boots, and

a chunky sweater," she said. "I also loves silver jewelry."

Gudas grew up in Binghamton, New York where she currently lives with her parents, sister and dog. She was educated in Binghamton until her freshman year of high school when she transferred to the Westminster School and repeated a grade. She ended up at Middlebury partly because Westminster has such a large contingency of students that continue on to study the College, but she also has family connections to the town itself. Gudas's grandparents used to live in Middlebury; Gudas even took her first steps on the Middlebury golf course. In a way, attending Middlebury was simply bringing her life full circle.

You could say Gudas's love for fashion emerged through her passion for jewelry. When she was younger, she and her sister had a small jewelry business where they participated in local trunk shows and sold their merchandise to a few retail stores.

"I didn't become interested in clothing until around junior year of high school. I had some friends who sparked my interest in fashion, and I started to look at fashion blogs and read magazines from then on," Gudas said.

When she began making money and buying her own clothes, Gudas started her mission for great deals and got into "bidding wars" on websites like eBay.

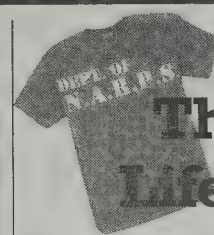
Gudas thinks that people underestimate eBay and even claims that she gets most of her clothes from the site.

"If I see something in a magazine that I think looks cute, I'll look up the item or style on eBay, and something always pops up," she said. "It's always much cheaper than the original price. Even if the clothes are pre-owned, you can usually tell by the pictures how much the person actually wore them."

So why don't more people shop on eBay to buy their clothing? Most likely it's because people don't realize that they do not need to spend a fortune on clothing, accessories or even jewelry. The same exact Frye boot that you have been saving up for could be on eBay for half of its original cost, and you could spend that other money on something far more important or meaningful. After all, we are all college students struggling on little income, so why not save a few bucks and jump onto eBay or other bidding sites?

Like me, you may have assumed that eBay only sells used clothing, when in reality you can buy clothing with the tags still on them. Nevertheless, buying clothing that has been worn "a couple of times" is very similar to buying a new piece of clothing in a store that has been tried on several times by plenty of different customers. You also have to spend two to three times as much for an item that has not been worn over an item that has only been worn once.

Gudas's alternative form of shopping may be a great new option for many of us college students. It allows us to keep up with the trends and the high designer items without giving up every cent in our wallet. So next time you have a craving for online shopping, saw a great leather jacket in this month's Vogue, or have a themed party that you need overalls for, it might be worth your time to scroll through eBay before you make a huge financial investment elsewhere.



The Secret Life of Narps

By Izzy Fleming and Maddie Webb

Have you climbed a mountain recently? Did you make the trek to the gym during J-term? Do you own more than three athletic outfits? Well we haven't, we didn't and we don't. As Non-Athletic Regular People, or NARPs for short, being unathletic makes us social pariahs on a campus where the athletic prowess is stifling. We are the minority. We typically prefer to watch Netflix in our beds (have you seen Scandal?), sing karaoke in our tiny Battell dorm rooms (stop by whenever to hear our rendition of the Rocket Power theme song) or, if all else fails, take our third or fourth nap of the day (we recommend the NOVA Foam mattress pad for optimal results). Maddie is, after all, a self-diagnosed narcoleptic (thank you WebMD Symptom Checker).

Jokes aside, being out-of-shape students on an overwhelmingly athletic campus sparks feelings of inadequacy. The pressure to fit this standard triggers confidence, body-image and social insecurities among boys and girls alike. In an effort to determine whether being able to run several miles at a time or hitting Ross in LuluLemon workout gear genuinely changes our college experience, we, Izzy Fleming and Maddie Webb, have decided to report undercover as wannabe athletes. We will embark on a 12-week training regimen that will culminate with the Middlebury Maple Run, a half-marathon, on May 4.

Before we divulge the extent of our training process, we felt it necessary to provide you a brief history of our past athletic endeavors. As a freshman in an all-girls high school, Maddie tried out for her no-cut basketball team and, to nobody's surprise, was cut. Apparently experiencing an asthma attack after one set of sprints is not normal. Who knew. Izzy has had a more successful history in competitive games, as she is the reigning champion of a co-ed cake eating competition hosted at her high school. Did we mention it was co-ed?

The mission to prove the NARP haters wrong began on Monday, Feb. 10, 2014. Our schedule, courtesy of Self Magazine, called for a two to three mile run at an "easy pace." For people who have never run more than one mile, we would consider an easy pace to be crawling. With poorly supportive shoes and every athletic top we owned layered on top of each other, we set out on our first run in 20 degree weather. Thanks to the iPhone app Map My Run, we were able to track our distance and speed. After 32 minutes and 24 seconds we completed 2.76 miles. That is an average mile time of 11 minutes and 43 seconds. Yes, we realize this is bad. Like forgetting it is breakfast for dinner bad.

Stay tuned for next week when we hit the gym for the fourth time all year, as a senior athlete leads us into one of the most intimidating territories on campus: the weight room.

THE SCHEDULE WEEK 1:

M: 2-3 MILES*, EASY PACE

Tu: STRENGTH TRAINING

W: 2-3 MILES*, EASY PACE

Th: STRENGTH TRAINING

F: 3 MILES*, EASY PACE

Sa: DAY OFF

Su: 3.5 MILES*, EASY PACE

*RUNNING, NOT CRAWLING.



MARY-CLAIRE ECCLESINE

eBay aficionado Gudas in her 'classic vintage' bargains, all staples of her style.

ARTS & SCIENCES

The Middlebury Campus

Students Perform Vagina Monologues

Middlebury Theater Puts on Valentine's Production

By Leah Lavigne

Let's talk about vaginas. Or, rather, let's talk about *The Vagina Monologues*, a student produced play performed on Valentine's Day in the Hepburn Zoo.

Writer Eve Ensler '75 wanted to start a taboo conversation about female genitalia, and she started interviewing women about their views on sex, relationships and violence, compiling a piece that is ultimately a celebration of vaginas and femininity as well as a movement to stop violence against women. The monologues themselves are endearing and whimsical, heartbreaking and powerful, enlightening and shocking. Inspired by interviews with over 200 women of varying ages, ethnicities, nationalities and sexual experience conducted over two decades, the play reveals tales of feminine oppression, liberation, discovery and shame by discussing that most elusive part of the female figure: the vagina.

Premiering in 1996 at the HERE Arts Center in New York City, *The Vagina Monologues* also enjoyed a limited run at the Kevin P. Mahaney '84 Center for the Arts in the same year. Eventually gaining popularity through a word of mouth campaign, the play has been performed at Madison Square Garden and was featured in an HBO television adaptation.

Traditionally performed around the country on Valentine's Day, the productions usually benefit rape crises centers and shelters for women. All of the proceeds from Middlebury's production were donated to WomenSafe, an Addison County organization working toward the elimination of physical, sexual and emotional violence against women.

Director Rebecca Coates-Finke '16.5 became involved in the production through discussions about staging the play with fellow Chellis House Monitors.

"I volunteered [to be director] kind

of on a whim," Coates-Finke said. "I've had a solid amount of experience working on shows in the Hepburn Zoo and I've worked closely with so many directors I wanted to try my hand at it. Also, I'd never seen *The Vagina Monologues* and that seemed so wrong."

One of the first monologues, "Hair," perhaps says it best. "Vagina" is not an enjoyable word. As the piece points out, it sounds more like a harsh medical instrument than a revered part of the body, and saying it in any context will undoubtedly provoke squirms and blushes of embarrassment from people of any age or gender. The Hepburn Zoo was packed with male and female audience members from ages 18 to 65, and Coates-Finke began the show by informing the crowd that hearing words like "vagina," "pleasure" and "clitoris" throughout the night did not constitute an emergency. These are words that do not appear in everyday conversation, but *The Vagina Monologues* aimed to, at least for a few hours, create a forum for open dialogue about a part of the body that has so much effect on women, and indeed, men, but is rarely acknowledged or discussed.

"When Eve Ensler wrote the *Vagina Monologues*, she tore away the stigmatizing silence surrounding women's vaginas," wrote Coates-Finke in the Director's Note of the program. "She gave a voice to thousands of stories and empowered thousands more to spread them. In this moment...we are adding ourselves and our stories to the many that have come before, and the many still to come."

As Coates-Finke noted, the show began with a piece written and performed by Jiya Pandya '17 based on interviews with every member of the cast. Aptly named "The Period Monologue," Pandya breathlessly exclaimed her 12-year-old excitement at becoming a member of

the exclusive 'club' of womanhood only to discover that the implications of this transition involved serious mental and physical pain, confusion and maturity. The choice to begin with an original, relatively relatable monologue successfully eased the audience into the rest of the play.

Four narrators, Katie Carlson '15, Akhila Khanna '17, Marium Sultan '16 and Helen Wu '16.5 provided contexts for each of the monologues, discussing the origin of each piece and adding statistical information when necessary.

Dana Tripp '14 sat down as if she was about to get a haircut in "Hair," but she wasn't talking about the hair on her head. Looking pointedly at the audience, she explained her husband's request for her to remove the hair around her vagina and her subsequent embarrassment and physical pain. The cheating husband insisted that it would save their relationship, and even a female marriage counselor agreed that everyone must make sacrifices, but in the end Tripp's character decided that the hair was there for a reason and that it is a personal decision for each woman. The audience was nervous, shifting and looking around for other reactions, but Tripp's captivating delivery of the monologue successfully captured the attention of the spectators, leaving everyone wondering what else to expect.

In each interview, Ensler asked, "What would your vagina wear?" and "If it could speak, what would it say?" and the responses are peppered throughout the piece.

Two ensemble presentations near the beginning of the play aimed to provide a sampling of responses to these questions. In the second, more memorable piece, the women paired up and formed – what else – visual vaginas, hands stretched up

and together and bodies curving inward. As each pair recited a phrase that vaginas said, their bodies moved outward and inward, 'lips' opening and closing as the words were spoken. Nervous laughter and squirms were rampant throughout the audience.

Fourteen women comprised the cast of the production, all dressed in black with a few key red accessories. The play included students from many majors united by their interest in feminism and portrayals of the female body. Seven of the actors were international students, a much higher percentage than is usually present in theater productions on campus.

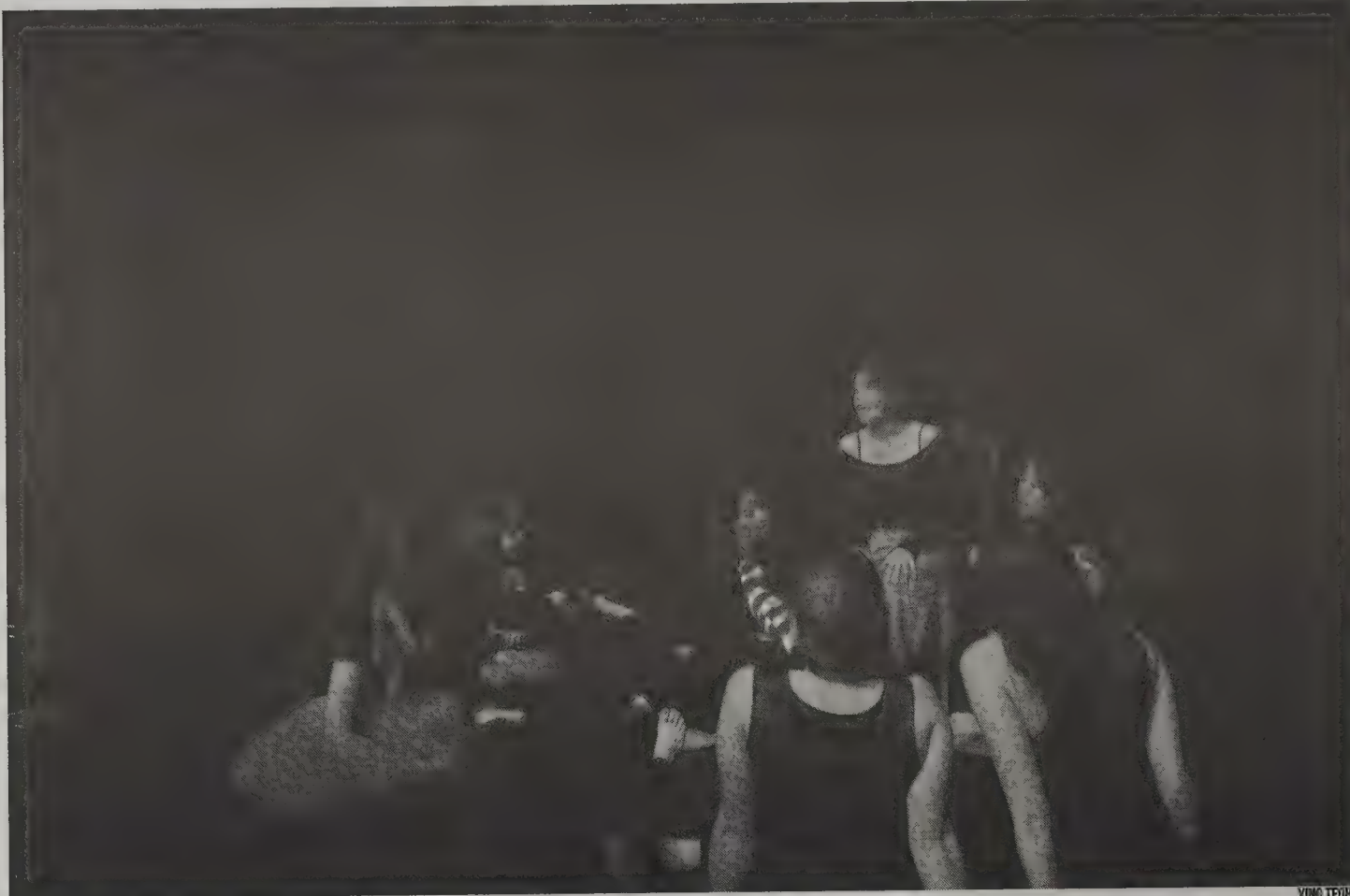
"I'm proud of the women I've worked with—or I guess inspired would be a better word," Coates-Finke said. "They are amazing, brave and bold, and they took risks without hesitation, even though for many of them this type of theater and/or these kinds of conversations are new and can be kind of intimidating."

Adara Wicaksono '17 acted the story of a woman in her 60's who had never experienced an orgasm and only referred to her vagina as her "down there." In "The Flood," she recounted with nuanced pain and regret an encounter with a handsome young man from her adolescence, haltingly revealing that she had unwillingly flooded the seat of his car after their first kiss, prompting his judgment and her decision never to enter into relationships again. She remembered with glee her dreams of "Marlon and I," in which she and Marlon Brando went out for dinner dates only for the restaurant to be flooded with water, fish and Marlon's good friend, Al Pacino, swimming by. The embarrassment and longing caused by her natural bodily reaction was heartbreaking, and raises questions about why women (and men) are so afraid of vaginas.

Lorena Neira '17 sported pink pajama pants as the rest of the cast circled around her, enraptured by her tale "Because He Liked to Look At It." The audience was equally enraptured by Neira's subtle use of humor and insight as she described Bob, an ordinary man who was not smart, interesting, funny or handsome. He was the most ordinary man she'd ever met, she explained, until their chance meeting led to a revelatory bedroom experience. Bob, it turned out, was ordinary in every way except that he wanted to look at Neira's character – not her face, she soon discovered, but to really look at the essence of her – her vagina. Initially uncomfortable, Neira eventually described her most powerful and connected sexual experience through acceptance of her vagina's existence and appearance.

Sarah James '17 recounted another story of empowerment in "The Vagina Workshop," in which she described her experience at a class full of women as they lay back on mats with mirrors, looking at their vaginas and eventually finding their clitorises.

Continued on next page.



Lorena Neira '17 captivates the ensemble of *The Vagina Monologues* with her performance of "Because He Liked to Look At It."

**DON'T
MISS
THIS**

Ain't Them Bodies Saints

The Hirschfeld International Film Series presents this 2013 film starring Casey Affleck. Following an outlaw in 1970's Texas on a quest to reunite with his wife and the child he's never met, director David Lowery crafts a modern Western with a twist.

2/22 3 AND 8 P.M., DANA AUDITORIUM

David Wax Museum

The first annual free winter carnival concert features an eclectic mix of Irish, Mexican, classical and folk styles from David Wax, Sue Slezak and their band. Instruments include the Mexican jarana and the quijada, percussion made from a donkey's jawbone. Presented by MCAB.

2/21 10 P.M. MCCULLOUGH SOCIAL SPACE

Alexander Melnikov

The Russian piano sensation Alexander Melnikov returns to the Middlebury College Performing Arts Series to play a solo program of Schumann's *Symphonic Etudes* and Book Two of Shostakovich's 24 Preludes and Fugues, op. 87. \$7. \$6 for students.

2/23 3 P.M. CONCERT HALL, MAHANEY CENTER FOR THE ARTS

ONE LIFE LEFT

BY CHAPIN BOYER

The past few years have been a rotten time for local multiplayer video games. Big name franchises have been shifting focus to online multiplayer, sometimes dropping their local multiplayer altogether. Last year, when I popped open my brand new copy of *SSX* for the PS3, I found that EA had decided not to include any kind of local multiplayer play in this version of the game. This came as a surprise to me, as all the previous versions of the game had included a local competition mode, and it did not seem like its omission added anything to the *SSX* experience. I played a lot of *SSX*'s online mode, but it never scratched the same itch.

Fortunately, I can report that the past year has stood witness to a rebirth of the local multiplayer game. Titles like *Divekick*, *Nidhogg*, *Samurai Gunn* and the upcoming *Starwhal* are providing the kinds of frantic, easy to learn experiences that go off great at parties (or at least at the kind of parties I attend).

First up, *Nidhogg*: Loosely described as a fencing tug of war game, *Nidhogg* pits two players armed with swords against one another. Each player is trying to slay their opponent and move past them in order to be eaten by the titular *Nidhogg* and claim victory. Whoever scored the last kill is the player trying to move to the other side of the screen. To accomplish this goal, players can swordfight their opponents directly, throw their swords at them, punch and kick them, or simply run by. *Nidhogg* games can get pretty heated, and of all the games listed in this article it is the one that is most prone to

Smash Brothers Syndrome (a condition in which one friend gets too good at the game and ruins everyone else's fun). If you can avoid that dangerous scenario, however, *Nidhogg* presents a totally unique take on the 1v1 fighting game, and can make for hours of good fun.

Samurai Gunn provides a slightly different experience. While it also involves sword fighting and platforming in a 2D environment, *Samurai Gunn* operates at a much more insane pace. Allowing up to four players, *Samurai Gunn* hands each character a sword and a gun with three bullets. Each character receives three new bullets every time they respawn. As one hit is all it takes to slay an opponent, the game play in *Samurai Gunn* becomes a frantic, screaming mess pretty quickly. With players dying and respawning left and right, and bullets flying across the screen, it can be pretty hard to get used to playing such a high energy game. Once you have a handle on the controls, however, *Samurai Gunn* is incredibly rewarding. Baiting your friend into swinging too early and jumping past her slash to take her out with one of your own, or successfully getting the drop on another friend just as he finishes off another player is hilariously fun. The manic pace at which the whole game operates and the insanity of its various stages means that even good players can have a bad game, and bad ones can sometimes get into a serious groove. With its simple controls and objectives, and short game times, *Samurai Gunn* makes for an excellent party game.

Starwhal, the last new game on this list, might be the finest example of a sword fight-

ing game I have ever played. While *Nidhogg* and *Samurai Gunn* have actual sword fighting in them, *Starwhal* simulates the experience so much better. Again allowing for four players, *Starwhal* casts everyone as narwhals in space. Each narwhal is trying to stab the others in the heart with their tusks. The controls, while simple, take a bit of getting used to. You press a button to move forward, and can swing your tusk left and right to change directions or stab someone's heart as they move past. You are never in full control of your narwhal, but that doesn't really matter. The feel of the game is so spot on, and the way the characters flip and wiggle across the screen is alternately amusing and awesome. Flipping over opponents, pulling off successful baits and switches, executing a perfectly timed cross-stage charge—all of these moments make playing *Starwhal* with a group of friends a fantastically good time. It is a pretty stupid game, the controls are difficult, and that is exactly the way it should be.

All of these games invoke a similar spirit. Each one provides easy to learn, often manic and often loud fun. They are little bottles of joy that you can share with friends, and each has a suite of well-designed mechanics to keep you interested. As they are all indie titles, they also come quite cheap, and *Starwhal* has a free demo on its website. With these games already out, and titles like *Towerfall* and *Sportsfriends* hitting the PC (and the PS3 in the case of *Sportsfriends*) in the near future, this trend promises to continue for at least a little while longer. So grab yourself some friends and a few beers and have yourselves a rip-roaring good time.

Play Opens Taboo Discussion

Continued from previous page.

While this may sound like the most uncomfortable workshop ever invented, James delivered the monologue with a gentle seriousness that distracted from the awkward nature of the class. For James' character, finding her clitoris ("I've lost it! I've lost my clitoris!"), she exclaimed at one point to her instructor) reconnected her to her femininity and allowed her to embrace her vagina.

In deciding to incorporate multiple players into a dramatized rendition of each of the monologues, Coates-Finke created a more visually engaging theatrical experience, capitalizing on the vivid textual material and individual talents of each involved student. They also broke the mold with these innovative staging decisions, as the play is traditionally presented as a series of "single-actor-on-stage" monologues.

"The play was a little hard to grapple with at first. It's usually done very informally with women just sitting on chairs to deliver their monologues," Coates-Finke said. "I didn't want to do that because I didn't like that from an artistic or aesthetic standpoint, and I wanted the women in the cast to be a constant and active part of every moment in the show."

In perhaps the most lighthearted monologue of the night, Maeve Grady '16.5 portrayed "The Woman Who Liked to Make Vaginas Happy," describing her transition from a corporate tax lawyer to female dominatrix, strutting across the stage in red heels as she described the feeling of empowerment stemming from making women moan. As she culminated her monologue, each of the cast members rested back on their hands, facing away from the audience, each demonstrating one of the many moans classified by Grady, prompting the biggest laughs of the night. A few of the linguistically describable include the Jewish Moan—Oy, oy—and the Irish Catholic moan—Forgive me, Father!

Positioned as a stark juxtaposition, Sandra Markowitz '16 recounted one girl's traumatic experiences from ages 5 to 16 in "The Little Coochie Snorcher That Could." Markowitz described a familial rape that caused her to want to hide from her sexuality forever before detailing her "salvation" at age 16, when she was seduced by a powerful, 24-year-old woman who gave her such a positive sexual experience that she felt "healed," though she never saw the woman again. This monologue originally



Marium Sultan '16, Katie Carlson '15 and Akhila Khanna '17 act out their narration.

included the line "If it was rape, it was good rape," which was removed from later versions. Is it more heartbreaking that she was only able to start the healing process through another form of abuse, or is it a relief that she was able to again confront her sexuality? It is for the audience to decide.

Coates-Finke thinks that though the play is performed from a female perspective about the female body, people of any mature age can benefit from a viewing.

"Male-identified, male-bodied people do not belong in this play because it addresses oppression affecting female-identified people with vaginas," Coates-Finke said. "But men should be feminists; men should support gender equality; men should seek solutions, and so this play is important in that it is educational and eye-opening for anyone to see. I love that this play is extremely sex-positive and body-positive. A lot of time is spent discussing the ways that our bodies do not function or look the way we want them to, and no time is spent talking about the awesome things they do for us—like sex!"

Celeste Allen '16 burst onto the stage to confront a word with a mostly derogatory connotation, "Cunt." At the beginning of the performance, she unbuttoned her black dress shirt to reveal a tank top falling above "CUNT" spelled in red tape above the area it described. Bracing and cold, the word is almost more uncomfortable to say and hear than vagina, but Allen's alternating rapid and slow patterns across the stage, fluid arm movements and smooth, relaxing voice worked to change that. By the end of the performance, the word did

not sound as harsh or jarring. The monologue revealed that a word is only as embarrassing or crass as it is made out to be.

Jingyi Wu '16.5 closed the show with a performance of "I Was There in the Room," a monologue penned by writer Eve Ensler about watching her granddaughter's birth. As Wu poetically described the opening and the motions of the vagina in childbirth, the rest of the cast formed a half-circle in front of her, each woman leaning against the cast member in front of her. As the birth progressed, the circle began to move, waving in and out until Pandya made her way, sitting on the floor, out of the middle. This piece of dance added a powerful layer to the monologue, prompting even more thought about what childbirth really means for the female body.

Talking about the vagina is uncomfortable. Actually, even writing this article was uncomfortable. The Vagina Monologues asks why society is so scared to talk about this part of the female figure and invites women to open up about their own relationships with their vaginas. In sharing their stories, they connect with audiences around the world while bringing attention to the abuse and pain suffered by so many. It's supposed to be uncomfortable, but Coates-Finke and the cast and crew of the College's production tackled the task with grace and depth by adding choreography and personal experience. The audience laughed, squirmed and was forced to think, at least for a little while, about a subject that is usually completely ignored, which, in my mind, is a recipe for a great night at the theater.

POLITICS of POWER

By Cullen Coleman

Across the country, 24 states have declared energy emergencies in response to lingering cold blasts that continue to slam the South and Midwest. A propane shortage has caused 14 million Americans to pay nearly double for recent deliveries of the pungent gas. It would appear that the U.S. is in the midst of an energy crisis that challenges the basic heating needs of millions of homes. However, this is merely a blip, a snap-shot, not of a shortage but of the opposite—a global energy boom that has to the potential to fundamentally alter the energy landscape.

The price of a barrel of oil and, by extension, the price of gasoline, relies on two fundamental human constructs: supply and demand and fear. Some analysts are quoted as saying there is roughly a \$10-to-\$15 risk premium per barrel of oil (approximately ten percent of what you pay at the pump) caused by fear. This fear has been mainly focused on the Middle East. Wars in Libya, Iraq and Syria, protests in the Gulf States, regime change in Egypt, Tunisia and Yemen, and a relentless nuclear program in Iran have created a false sense of normal. However, 2014 shows signs that this reality should be questioned; fears can dissipate, and in the process the price of oil can fall.

On Jan. 20, a temporary agreement to halt aspects of Tehran's contentious nuclear program went into effect. The deal brokered between Iran and a U.S. led coalition released billions of Iran's sequestered oil revenues in return for a cessation in key nuclear production areas. Iranian oil production could realistically increase to roughly 3.6 million barrels per day (bpd). This would raise exports to 2 million bpd, positively affecting the world's total production of roughly 75 million bpd. The Iranian energy sector had been robbed and neglected under President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad and with bilateral talks progressing, President Rouhani has the opportunity to revitalize the backbone of the Iranian economy. Iran could once again hold the world's attention not with its nuclear program, but with its energy industry.

This is a trend that is playing out across the global energy landscape. Iraq, a country torn by invasions and years of sectarian conflict, is watching its production surge. Already the world's third largest oil exporter, Iraq has the resources and contracts to potentially double production to 6.1 million bpd by 2020 and possibly even reach 8.3 million bpd in 2035. In addition, there is growing hope for a war torn Libya that saw production fall from roughly 1.6 million bpd to zero in 2011. Production then rebounded much quicker than analysts expected and reached 1.5 million bpd in 2013. With the potential for the political, economic and financial system to recover, Libya is well positioned to drive down global prices. Overall, the volatility that has rocked the Middle East for the last decade is situated to recede and bring hope to a whole region.

Most importantly, in the U.S., crude oil production is approaching the previously unthinkable. America has recently passed the historical high of 9.6 million bpd of production. Deep sea plays, hydraulic fracturing and previously uneconomical sources of hydrocarbons are now flowing in the U.S.. The U.S. has recently assumed the title as the world's leading liquid fuels producer and by 2016 the International Energy Agency (IEA) predicts oil production will surpass Saudi Arabia as number one in the world.

Through a combination of slower economic growth, increased fuel efficiency and electric and hybrid cars, demand for oil in the developed world will continue to decline even as production grows. In combination with a decreased fear premium, the price of oil has a very real potential of settling lower than predicted, and that means lower prices at the pumps.

Track Hurdles Competition at Tufts Meet

By Fiona Maloney-McCrystle

The indoor track and field team trekked to Boston through snowy conditions on Saturday, Feb. 15 to participate in the Tufts Cupid Challenge, hosted by the Jumbos at the Gantcher Center. The meet is often referred to as "Tufts' Last Chance," the final competition of the indoor season that offers an opportunity for athletes to hit qualifying marks that will send them on to postseason meets. The day was one full of quality NESCAC competition, and though the Panther squad had to depart the meet earlier than anticipated due to inclement weather, its strong showing set the stage for a promising postseason in the upcoming weeks.

On the men's side, particularly strong finishes included Peter Hetzler's '14 fifth place effort of 51.32 in the 400m and Wilder Schaaf's '14.5 fourth place performance of 1:57.55 in the 800m. Sam Klockenkemper '17 and Sam Cartwright '16 also put forward top ten finishes, taking fifth and sixth place respectively in the 1,000 meters. The distance squad's success was rounded out by Kevin Wood '15 taking third in the 5k with a time of 15:14.14.

The distance medley relay (DMR) team

had an unfortunate baton drop in the first leg of the race, resulting in a slower finish than the high-ranked team had hoped for. Luckily, however, the squad met the qualifying mark for next weekend's Div. III New Englands on Feb. 7 at Boston University.

The DMR team will be joined by many more Panther teammates at New Englands next weekend, as five more athletes hit their qualifying marks in Saturday's competition, filling out the list of those who had already done so earlier in the season. In total, the men's side puts forward a lengthy list of 29 potential entries for New Englands.

On the women's side, the day also brought a number of exciting top ten finishes.

Erzsie Nagy '17 and Alex Morris '16 finished in fourth and sixth place in the 800 meters, posting respective times of 2:21.40 and 2:22.50, while Alison Maxwell '15 took third in the 1,000 meters in 3:04.9 and Sasha Whittle '17 took eighth in the same event with a time of 3:10.83.

Other high finishers included Alyssa Taylor '17 taking 7th in the 5k, Chelsea Montello '16 taking 10th in the long jump, Jackie Kearney '16 taking 10th in the 60m hurdles, and Hannah Blackburn '17 taking 10th in the triple jump. Blackburn also

placed third in the long jump with a mark of 16 feet 8 inches, and Laura Strom '14.5 continued her stellar senior season with a win in the high jump, finishing at 5 ft. 5.75 inches.

"I was happy with my performance because it means that I am getting consistent at a higher height," Strom said. "But I am looking forward to a more competitive field in the coming weeks and hoping it will push me so I can get up to 5' 8" again."

Strom heads into next weekend's DIII New England's ranked number one in the region.

The women's DMR team once again put up a strong performance, beating Bates by just under a second to win their race in a time of 12:09.67.

"We were pleased with the women, although we are still mixing up who runs what on the legs so that we can get the fastest combination," Distance Coach Nicole Wilkerson said. "We graduated all but the 400m runner from last year's relay, so although we are rebuilding this year, we are doing a really good job, and it is fun."

As a whole, the women have 27 total qualifying marks that can be entered this coming weekend at New Englands.

"This is an exciting time," head coach Martin Beatty said of the coming weeks of championship competition. "These are the meets that we work towards and can award honors to people who score."

The Panther men head to MIT this weekend on Saturday, Feb. 22 while the women return to action at Springfield, where those who have qualified will compete in the Div. III New England Championships.

BY THE NUMB3RS

6 Years in a row that Amherst and Williams have gone 1-2 at women's swimming and diving NESCACs. Amherst beat Middlebury by 9.5 points last weekend.

2 Number of times that women's hockey goalie Annabelle Jones '15 has been named NESCAC Player of the Week this season.

7 Straight wins for men's basketball over their opponent this weekend, Hamilton, before the Continentals beat Middlebury this season.

Double-doubles recorded by Scarlett Kirk '14 this season in 17 games played

2:20.21 Time in the 200 breaststroke for Jamie Hillas '15, her third school record in three days

Men's Hockey Squeaks by Williams in OT Thrillers

By John Wyman

Men's hockey captain Louis Belisle '14 delivered a game-winner with forty seconds remaining in the overtime period against Williams on Saturday, Feb. 15 to win by a score of 2-1. Middlebury also played Williams to a 1-1 tie at the Ephs home rink on Friday, Feb. 14, with Liam Moorfield-Yee '16 squeezing tight between the pipes with a .957 save percentage over the two-game series.

At Williams on Friday, George Ordway '15 finally broke the ice about one minute into the third period, snatching up a giveaway in the Williams zone and spinning in a wraparound goal for his fourth of the season.

"When I think of players who do all the right things, but don't always get the credit on the score sheet, Ordway definitely comes to mind," said Assistant Coach Jamie McKenna.

Williams mustered a response two minutes later on a man-advantage. Moorfield-Yee slid across the crease neatly to save a one-time slap-shot, but the rebound spilled right to well-positioned Eph and the score was tied.

Mason Graddock '09, an assistant coach

with the Middlebury team, developed a reputation for defensive toughness as a player here and now trains the four-man units that kill off penalties. This means scouting the other team's power-play beforehand and matching up against their strength. Despite surrendering the late power-play goal, he stood by the system which has held opponents to scoreless on eighty-eight percent of the two-minute opportunities.

"Friday's goal was not a defensive breakdown. They got a good bounce and that will happen once in a while," he said. "I am pleased with how we've been killing off penalties this year."

At Middlebury on Saturday, Williams scored eight minutes into the first period, again on a power-play. The Ephs' Paul Steinig collected a pass just below the right wing faceoff circle and slung one just inside the far post.

After the first goal, Middlebury took a death grip on puck possession and began barraging the Williams goaltender with shots from all directions. By the end of the game, the Panthers held a 44-23 shots advantage.

Derek Pimentel '15 finally scored on a six-on-four advantage when Jake Charles '16 surprised everyone but Pimentel with an extra pass across the goalmouth to complete a brilliant tic-tac-toe scoring strike.

Right when it looked like the game was headed for another tie, Belisle took a breakout pass from John Barr '14 in the defensive zone and wove down the ice. Cutting laterally at the blue line, Belisle zipped a wrist-shot across his body and the puck found the top right corner.

"It felt so good to score that one," Belisle said. "It was such an important game to win. The game was ours to take. I think the shot count really tells the story."

With a strong turnout from the fans this weekend, the Panthers hope that they can continue this train of success.

"We have a new game plan where we play tougher in front of both nets and play harder to play against," Belisle said. "As much as we know the challenge of some of our opponents, we know that our biggest opponent is ourselves."

Graddock was pleased with the teams

play, especially on Saturday night.

"You could attribute some of it to the bigger rink, but more so I think we were hungry to get a win," he said. "We've had a number of games that did not go our way recently, so we didn't want to let that happen again."

Middlebury sits in a tightly packed NESCAC race with two games remaining. Two wins or two losses could land Middlebury anywhere between third and ninth place when the dust finally settles. That means there is still a chance to win home-ice advantage in the first round of the NESCAC playoffs, a favorable situation given the teams impressive 6-3-1 record at home, outscoring conference opponents 23-12 in those games.

"Our fans are loud," Belisle said, "It feels really good to have that support and it makes a big difference. It would be really special to get a playoff game at home."

The Panthers return to the ice this Saturday, Feb. 22, with a home matchup against second-place Amherst. Middlebury will then wrap up its regular season by hosting Hamilton on Sunday, Feb. 23.

Ski Teams Finish Third at Williams Carnival

By Courtney Mountifield

The Middlebury ski team traveled to Williamstown, Mass. this past weekend, Feb. 14 and 15, to take part in the Williams Carnival. Jiminy Peak was the venue for the carnival's alpine events while Prospect Mountain held the Nordic events.

Middlebury found itself in a tie for fourth place after day one, but was able to improve on day two to claim third place overall. UVM won the carnival with 970 points, Dartmouth was next with 834 and Middlebury followed with 640.

In the men's slalom event, Middlebury was impressive with five finishing in the top ten. Hig Roberts '14 led the Panthers again, claiming fourth place. Colin Hayes '17 was second for Middlebury in sixth place, Ghassan Gedeon Achi '16 was seventh and Christopher McKenna '17 rounded the consecutive trio in eighth. Nick Bailey '14 was the fifth Middlebury man to finish in the top ten, snagging tenth place.

The women's alpine team's top finisher was Kara Shaw '15, whose two runs cemented her just outside the top ten in thirteenth place. Yina Moe-Lange '15 crept into the top 20 while fellow junior Katelyn Barclay '15 was 25th. Elle Gilbert '16 was only 27 hundredths of a second behind Barclay, good for 26th place.

The Nordic teams took part in relays on day one. Each team comprised three racers and each individual time was added together to determine the team time. The Middlebury men's top team combined for a time of 31:34, good for ninth place. That squad was

made up of Patrick McElravey '17, Dylan McCarthwaite '15 and Ben Lustgarten '14. Lustgarten was dominant in his individual performance, finishing the course in the fastest time amongst all competitors.

The top Middlebury women's Nordic team also raced to a ninth-place finish in a time of 38:34. The top three women competing were Heather Mooney '15, Kaitlin Fink '16 and Stella Holt '15.

On day two, the alpine teams competed in the giant slalom event. Roberts was the only competitor under 1:43.00, as he finished the course in 1:42.81. With this time, the senior won the giant slalom event and his second first-place finish in the event this season. First-year McKenna was also impressive as he came away with fifth place.

Moe-Lange finished the carnival with her sixth top-10 finish, coming in at eighth place. A fifteenth-place finish for Gilbert is the best yet for the sophomore. The last scorer was Shaw, who finished in 26th place.

The men's Nordic team took part in the 10K classic on day two and had a strong showing. Lustgarten finished fourth overall, McElravey was 22nd, and Adam Luban '17 was 35th.

The same three women highlighted the 5K classic for the Nordic competition. Mooney continued her consistent performances as she finished the weekend with her seventh top-ten finish. Holt was eighteenth while Fink finished in 43rd place.

"As a women's team one of our goals throughout the season has been to utilize pack skiing, meaning using our depth as a team during races and pushing each other

towards even better results," Holt said. "Next weekend at Middlebury Carnival there will be a mass start race, meaning everyone will go at once, a huge opportunity for us as a women's team to show our ability to have a strong race together."

This coming weekend, Middlebury will host the Eastern Intercollegiate Skiing Association (EISA) Championships as part of the 91st annual winter carnival. The contest will take place over two days, Friday, Feb. 21 and Saturday, Feb. 22. The Middlebury College Snow Bowl will hold the alpine events and the Rikert Nordic Center will host the Nordic events.

"We would again like to win a carnival as a team like we were able to at UVM two weeks ago," Holt said. "To do this we know

we have to get three skiers in the top ten and likely need one or two within the top five, so we would be especially proud to pull it off again. All of these goals are only within reach because of the depth of our women's team this year."

As the end of the season nears and each skier's carnival finishes become increasingly important, a proper plan is important and has been constructed by the Middlebury ski team.

"From here until the end of NCAA's, proper rest becomes really important," Holt said. "Between now and mid-March we will be finding the balance between rest and training enough to keep our bodies moving and our brains happy and confident in our ability on skis."

PANTHER SCOREBOARD

MEN'S HOCKEY vs. Williams

2-1 W(OT)

Men notch key win over rivals Ephs on home ice.

WOMEN'S HOCKEY vs. Williams

1-1 T

Women close out the regular season undefeated in conference play.

MEN'S SQUASH vs. Brown

5-4 W

Panthers earn second win over Brown during the 2014 campaign.

MEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Amherst

84-67 L

Lord Jeffs use second-half run to bury Panthers in prelude to conference tourney.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL vs. Amherst

79-41 L

Panthers are no match for number 12 Amherst in season finale.

Women's Swimming and Diving Powers to Third Place Finish at NESCAC Meet

By Kevin Yochim

The Middlebury women's swimming and diving teams finished in third place at the 2014 NESCAC Championships this past weekend, Feb. 14-16, at Samuelson-Muir Pool in Williamstown, Mass. Host Williams won the event with 2,007 points, followed by Amherst (1,216.5) and Middlebury (1,207). Bates (1,132) and Connecticut (1,000.5) rounded out the top five in the 11-team event.

The weekend held a full slate of competition for the women, with morning trials and evening finals sessions on Friday, Saturday and Sunday.

After sitting in second place – behind only Williams – for most of the championship, Middlebury entered the weekend's final event, the 400-yard freestyle relay, trailing Amherst by just 11.5 points. The Panther squad of Morgan Burke '17, Jamie Hillas '15, Megan Griffin '16 and Courtney Haron '15 finished just ahead of Amherst in fourth place with a time of 3:30.52. Because the Lord Jeffs finished just one place back in fifth, however, Middlebury was unable to make up the whole point differential and Amherst hung on for a tight second-place finish.

The third-place finish was an improvement for the women, who finished fourth in both the 2012 and 2013 NESCAC championships, and their best team result since a runner-up finish in 2008. This year's margin between second and third was the closest that any team in the conference

has come to unseating either Amherst or Williams in the top two spots since that 2008 finish.

Hillas dominated the competition, breaking three school records on the weekend. She lowered her 2012 Middlebury record in the 50-yard breaststroke first in preliminaries and then in the finals, hitting the wall in a speedy 29.10 seconds. Hillas finished in a tie with Tufts' Jenny Hu for the NESCAC title in the event, and their time was also good for a joint pool record.

Hillas also improved on her school record in the 100-yard breaststroke, finishing in 1:03.90 and missing first place by only 0.01 seconds. Finally, she broke her own 2013 school record in the 200-yard breaststroke with a time of 2:20.21, finishing third in the race.

Griffin finished second in the 50-yard butterfly in 25.63 seconds, breaking a school mark that had stood since 2008.

The relay team of captain Andie Tibbetts '14, Hillas, Griffin and Burke finished only 0.02 seconds behind winner Amherst in the 200-yard medley relay on Saturday night, finishing with a time of 1:44.51. The squad broke the previous school record of 1:45.25, which was set back in 2009, with a time that was good for an NCAA provisional 'B' cut.

Tibbetts – who has accumulated a total of 287.5 points in NESCAC championship events over her four years – was honored at the meet's end as the fifth-highest-scoring senior in the conference.

"Our performances throughout the

weekend were remarkable across the board and surpassed anybody's expectations," Tibbetts said. "This meet marks the strength of our program and bodes extremely well for the coming years."

I think what really made the difference this year was the energy we showed on deck," Hillas said.

Colleen Harper '14 finished in eighth place in the one-meter diving competition on Friday with a score of 381.60. She improved on Sunday to place fourth in the 3-meter event with a score of 433.30. Harper was the only diver to compete for the Panthers.

The 200-yard medley relay team will compete in the NCAA Division III Championships in Indianapolis, Ind. over the weekend of March 19-22. Several swimmers from that relay will also compete in the individual events in which they earned NCAA 'B' cuts. Hillas will compete in both the 100 and 200-yard breaststroke, Griffin in the 100-yard butterfly and Burke in 200-yard freestyle.

The men's swimming and diving team will compete for NESCACs this weekend, Feb. 21-23, at Bowdoin. The Panthers finished in fifth place at the event last year, an improvement upon their seventh-place finish from 2012.

Ian Mackay '14 will look to defend his 2013 conference titles in both the 50-yard freestyle and 50-yard butterfly events, while Stephan Koenigsberger '16 looks for his first NESCAC title in the 50-yard breaststroke after finishing second in that event a year ago.

THE MIDDLEBURY GREAT GR8 EIGHT

RANKING	TEAM
	Mac's Musings
1	MEN'S SQUASH <i>Congrats on the Summers Cup title.</i>
2	WOMEN'S SWIMMING <i>Couldn't hang on to beat Amherst, but still impressed</i>
3	WOMEN'S HOCKEY <i>Need to get back to playing their best for NESCACs</i>
4	TRACK AND FIELD <i>Next weekend will bring out the best across the board at New Englands</i>
5	MEN'S BASKETBALL <i>Despite the doubters, Midd will host a playoff game</i>
6	MEN'S HOCKEY <i>Strong Great8 this week. Impressive weekend, men</i>
7	SKIING <i>This is a testament to everyone else's success. See ya at Winter Carnival</i>
8	RUSSIAN HOCKEY <i>I'm sick and tired of hearing how good the Soviets are</i>

Women's Basketball Ends Season 1-11 in NESCAC

By Fritz Parker

The Middlebury women's basketball team wrapped up its season this past weekend with road games against conference foes Trinity and Amherst. The Panthers fell behind in the second half in a loss at Trinity on Friday, Feb. 14, before being beaten from tip to buzzer in Sunday's matchup with twelfth-ranked Amherst, the final game in a Panther jersey for Middlebury's senior class.

By virtue of their loss to Bowdoin the previous week, Middlebury was eliminated from possible contention for the NESCAC playoffs before beginning the final weekend of the regular season. This was the second time in three years that the team had fallen outside the top eight in the regular-season conference standings and thus failed to qualify for the conference tournament.

For the team's five seniors, this meant that they knew going into the weekend's games that they would be the last of their college careers.

"It is strange to think that Sunday was the last time that I'll play basketball competitively because I've been playing since I was three years old, so I'm not entirely sure that it has hit me yet," Laura Lowry '14 said. "As always, it was great to be able to get the opportunity to put on my jersey and compete with my teammates."

Middlebury got out to a quick start in Friday's matchup with Trinity, taking a 7-2 lead three minutes in on a jumper from Elizabeth Knox '17. The Bantams came storming back, however, knotting the score at 11 with a pair of free throws four minutes later. Trinity used a large rebounding advantage to stretch that lead through halftime, going into the break with a 35-25 lead.

The Panthers played their way back into the game in the opening minutes of the second half. After Rachel Crews '15 hit on a pair of free throws, Knox converted a layup to cut the lead to 42-38 with 15 minutes left to play and force a Trinity timeout.

From that point, a rash of turnovers and poor rebounding from the Panthers allowed the Bantams to regain control of the momentum. Trinity was able to extend its lead to over 20 with seven

minutes to play before a late Middlebury run cut the lead to a 65-50 final in favor of Trinity.

Guard Sarah Marcus '14 led Middlebury with 10 points in the losing effort, while Lowry and Crews each added nine. The Panthers struggled to match the Bantams on the glass throughout the game, conceding a 48-33 rebounding deficit that led to 11 fewer shots for Middlebury. Trinity held Middlebury's leading rebounder, Scarlett Kirk '14, to just six rebounds in the game, nearly four below her season average.

Back on the road against twelfth-ranked Amherst on Sunday, the Panthers put up a fight early before letting the game get out of hand in the later stretches of the opening half.

After Amherst took an early lead, Crews converted a three-point play six minutes in to draw the Panthers within two at 9-7. Over the next 12 minutes, however, the Lord Jeffs went on a 29-3 scoring run that effectively ended the game before halftime. During that stretch – which included a seven-minute scoreless drought for Middlebury – Amherst used strong rebounding and deadly three-point shooting to overwhelm the Panthers. At the half, Middlebury trailed 43-15.

With Amherst's reserves playing significant minutes, Middlebury was unable to mount any sort of comeback in the second half. The Lord Jeffs shot over 50 percent from the field after the intermission, allowing them to further stretch the lead. While the Panthers were more efficient on the offensive end in the second half, the lead was simply too much to overcome, and they fell by a final tally of 79-41.

That result was a bitter ending for Middlebury's seniors.

"Obviously, I wish that the outcome was different but I love competing against the best teams in the country," Lowry said. "I chose Middlebury because I wanted to play in the best conference in the country, among other things of course. I loved the four years that I got to play on this team and I learned an incredible amount."

With the sour end to the regular season, Middlebury finishes the 2013-

2014 campaign with a final record of 7-17, including a 1-9 mark in conference play. The Panthers finish in a three-way tie with Colby and Bates for last place in the NESCAC, a setback from last year's 4-6 conference record and fourth-place finish.

For the team's seniors, the season is the culmination of a rocky career which saw them go winless in the conference as sophomores in 2011-2012 before rebounding to make the playoffs during their junior seasons.

Nevertheless, Lowry believes that the seniors have left on a mark on the program that will allow the current underclassmen to build on their struggles going forward.

"When the underclassmen and the coaches look back and think about my class, I want them to remember us as a hardworking, unselfish group of competitors who embodied what

Middlebury basketball is," Lowry said. "I want them to remember us as great teammates, who cared about every girl on the team and put them before ourselves."

In the senior trio of Kirk, Marcus and Lowry, Middlebury graduates nearly 30 points and 16 rebounds per game, a considerable void which they will need to fill if they are to start the rebuilding process in the 2014-2015. The seniors leave behind a core of talented underclassmen – including Knox and Crews, the team's second and fifth leading scorers – who will hope to improve on this year's record as they lead the Panthers into next season.

"I want the underclassmen to continue the unselfishness and relentless play that has characterized Middlebury basketball for at least the last four years and I am very confident that they will continue to do so," Lowry said.



JEFF PATTERSON

Sarah Marcus '14 attacks the hoop in the Panthers' 65-50 loss on Saturday, Feb. 14. Marcus and the rest of the 2014 class went 43-55 over the last four seasons.

Women's Hockey Stays Perfect in NESCAC

By Colin McIntyre

Middlebury's second-ranked women's hockey team won and tied its two games against Williams this weekend in a home-and-home series that saw the Panthers clinch home ice for the upcoming NESCAC playoffs. On Friday, Feb. 14, league leaders Middlebury played host to the then second place Williams, winning 3-2. Middlebury then escaped Williamstown on Saturday with a 1-1 tie, their unbeaten league record intact.

In Kenyon Arena on Friday, Middlebury won a tight game riddled with power plays for each team. After a close, scoreless first period, Micaela Thibault '16 broke the tie six minutes after the first intermission. She took the puck into the offensive zone and fired an unassisted wrist shot past Ephs goaltender Chloe Billadeau for her first goal at Middlebury.

The lead was short lived as Williams equalized later in the period with a goal eight seconds after a checking penalty sent Jane Freda '17 to the penalty box.

In the minute preceding the second intermission, Middlebury regained the lead after a two-on-one break led to a scrum in the Williams crease, allowing Hannah Bielawski '15 to force in her sixth goal of the season.

Williams knotted the score again after they converted their second power play of the night.

In the final ten minutes, Middlebury showed their grit and were the beneficiary of two back-to-back power plays. Thirty seconds into the second power play, the Panthers whipped the puck around the perimeter and set up a

slapshot by Jennifer Krakower '14 that flew into the back of the net.

Williams pulled their goalie and had a fair share of chances to tie the game in the dying moments of the game, as two Middlebury penalties elicited a frenzied final minute of six on three hockey. Goaltender Annabelle Jones '15, Emily Fluke '15, Madeline Joyce '14 and Carly Watson '17 blocked every Williams shot and sealed the win.

"I would consider our win on Friday to be one of the best team wins we have had all season as it required a great amount of heart and perseverance to preserve our lead."

ANNABELLE JONES '15
GOALIE

In Saturday's matchup, Middlebury trailed for the majority of the game. Middlebury and Williams both dispatched several early man-up opportunities, and the game remained tied until Williams opened the scoring with 1:10 left in the first period. Middlebury's offense kept up pressure in the second period with several close chances — including a power play shot off the crossbar — but failed to convert the opportunities.

Middlebury's efforts finally paid off late in the third period as Pam Schulman '17 fired a shot past Williams' Billadeau to tie the game with under three minutes left. Katie Mandigo '16 and Joyce assisted on Schulman's goal. In the final minutes, Middlebury saw close chances turned away both by the goalie and the

goalposts. The game remained tied throughout the added five minutes and ended 1-1.

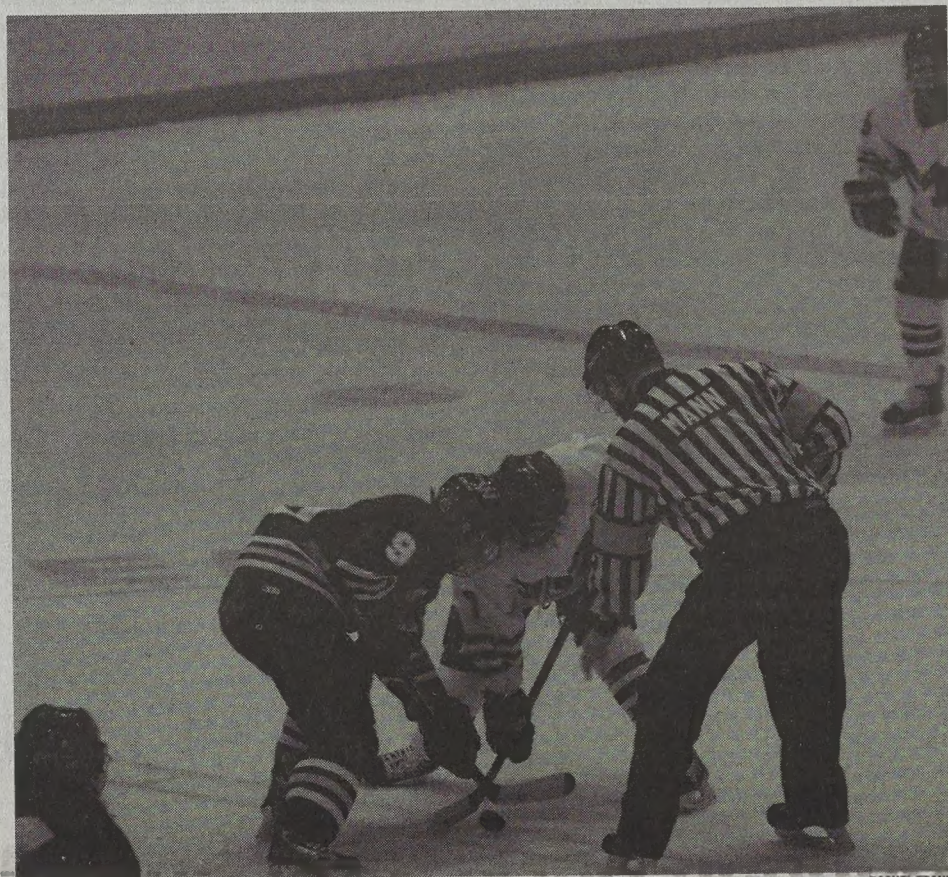
Krakower echoed Jones' enthusiasm following the two close games.

"This has been one of our better NESCAC weekends," Krakower said. "We fought and battled hard. We obviously would have liked to come out this weekend with two wins, but Williams is a strong team."

This season marks the fourth straight year that Head Coach Bill Mandigo's team has finished atop the NESCAC table.

"This team has a tremendous amount of talent," Krakower said. "Everyone is contributing to the team from the freshmen to the seniors."

Middlebury improved to 17-2-4 on the season and finished conference play 12-0-4. While the Panthers have finished their regular season, the eight other NESCAC teams play this weekend to determine the seeding for the March 1st NESCAC quarterfinals. Middlebury enters the playoffs looking to improve on a deep run last year that ended in a national championship game loss to Elmira.



RACHEL FRANK

Sara Ugalde '14 battles a Williams player for the puck during the teams' two-game weekend. The Panthers won and tied, ending their season undefeated in NESCAC play.

Girls Find Their Stride in the Middlebury Community

By Emma McDonald

"I wouldn't be who I am today without athletics," Casey Watters '15 said.

Watters — along with Emily Attwood '14 — worked over Winter Term as a coordinator and publicist for the Stride Foundation, a non-profit that provides access to athletics for elementary and middle-school girls in Vermont.

Leslie Wright '84 established the Stride Foundation in 2001, with the goal of empowering girls and young women through athletics and mentoring. With a recent *New York Times* report that girls' athletic involvement in childhood can lead to higher education and employment rates and lower teenage pregnancy rates, not to mention higher self-esteem and immeasurable health benefits, Wright's program provides an important supplement to Vermont sports programs, providing girls who may not have access to sports or the motivation to participate a fun and affordable way to get active.

Stride provides access to both alpine and Nordic skiing for disadvantaged and at-risk elementary and middle school girls through its "Snow Stars" program. The girls are outfitted with equipment and warm winter clothing from donations and sponsors, such as the Addison Outfitters, Middlebury's Ski Haus, Alpina Sport USA and Turtle Fur. For alpine skiing, girls from local schools are enrolled in a six-week lesson program at the Snow Bowl through the Middlebury College Ski and Snowboard School and are assigned a "Mountain Buddy," a female mentor and college ski instructor who skis with them before or after their lesson.

The Snow Stars Nordic program gives girls the opportunity to learn Nordic skiing in the Bill Koch League Ski

program, which provides lessons, games, and races for the girls to participate in each Saturday during the winter with other kids from the surrounding area. Once a week, members of the Middlebury College's women's Nordic ski team mentors the girls, providing entertainment and instruction.

Attwood, a member of Middlebury's Nordic ski team, has served as a mentor for the Nordic Snow Stars program and believes the program transcends pure sports instruction.

"Having these mentors that work with you over the course of several weeks, we got to the point where we weren't just talking about skiing, we were talking about their school and their friends," Attwood said.

Stride's first program, "Sisters in Sport," pairs middle school girls' basketball teams with college women's basketball teams, both in Middlebury and in Winooski. In Middlebury, the Middlebury College women's basketball team mentors Middlebury Union Middle School's seventh and eighth grade basketball teams, providing these young athletes with positive role models, lessons on sportsmanship and teamwork and exposure to sports at a higher level.

"It's hard not to want to be the star, to be the one scoring all the baskets," Watters said.

As a means of combating this attitude, the mentors had the middle-school players all share what it means to be a teammate, Watters said.

According to Attwood, mentoring has a huge impact on how girls view sports and their participation in them, motivating them to continue playing sports in high school and beyond.

"They see what fun a team sport can be at a college level," Attwood said. "It's

sort of this whole system of igniting a passion early so that they can move forward."

In the summer of 2012, Stride began a new eight-week initiative called "Moxie Sparks," through which local girls learn to mountain bike as part of the Vermont-based non-profit "Little Bellas" with mentors from the "Mountain Moxie" women's biking team. The Little Bellas program was founded by two Middlebury alumnae, Sabra and Lea Davison. Through the collaboration of three women's organizations, girls have access to new opportunities and can discover the positivity, camaraderie, and fun of sports.

Stride has a come a long way since its

inception in 2001 and will keep expanding as its impact on the communities which it serves becomes apparent. Stride aims to not just be another sports program, but to provide the foundation for a lifetime of sports and the development of skills that can be used in every aspect of life.

"Mentoring is a key part of Stride's programs, because we recognize the value of mentoring in reinforcing all of the positive aspects of participation in sports," Wright said. "We know that girls who play sports perform better in school, build self-esteem and gain health benefits that last a lifetime. In the end we want girls and women to reach their potential so they can become tomorrow's leaders."



CASEY WATTERS

Alexis Coolidge '15 teaches basketball and more to female students while volunteering as a coach for the Stride Foundation at Middlebury Union Middle School.

Men's Basketball Will Host Continentals

By Joe MacDonald

It was the best of times and the worst of times for the men's basketball team (16-8, 6-4) last weekend. The Panthers entered the final weekend of NESCAC play with their playoff plans far from settled, needing to win at least one of two final road matchups – against Trinity on Friday, Feb. 14 and Amherst on Sunday, Feb. 16 – in order to host a playoff game.

With the Panthers claiming a 53-45 victory over Trinity on Friday and both Bowdoin and Hamilton dropping conference games on the same night, Middlebury locked up the third seed for the NESCAC tournament and a home-court in the first round. By Sunday night, however, Middlebury had suffered an 84-67 defeat at top-seeded Amherst, a loss that did not injure the Panthers' seeding but does not bode well for the team's NESCAC championship hopes and NCAA tournament prospects.

Trinity (14-10, 5-5) boasts the NESCAC's second-stingiest defense and nation's second-highest rebounding margin, and held Middlebury to their fewest points scored in a win all season in the Panthers' 53-45 victory.

Both teams had ugly shooting nights. Middlebury shot 33 percent from the field, the same percentage from beyond the arc and 59 percent from the free throw line, stats that the Bantams were not even able to match.

Trinity, meanwhile, shot a measly 30 percent from the field, 11 percent from deep and 50 percent from the charity stripe.

"We struggled a little bit offensively against Trinity," Head Coach Jeff Brown said. "We were very fortunate that we defended them really well and we were able

to get a little bit of a lead and a cushion. We showed a lot of grit and a lot of toughness on the defensive end."

The Bantams took a 4-3 lead less than four minutes into the game, but two free throws from Dylan Sinnickson '15 gave Middlebury the lead, and the Panthers never looked back. Middlebury finished the first half on a 7-0 run, paced by Joey Kizel '14 who hit a three-pointer and finished a lay-up, sandwiched around a lay-up from Hunter Merryman '15.

Middlebury then opened the second half on an 8-0 run with a pair of threes from Sinnickson and Merryman and two free throws from Kizel, giving the Panthers their largest lead at 36-17 with 16:28 remaining.

The Bantams cut the deficit to six in the last minute of the contest, but missed a three-point attempt with 31 seconds remaining. Kizel corralled the rebound, and James Jensen '14 knocked down two free throws to make it a 53-45 game to seal the victory.

Kizel paced the Panthers, recording a double-double with 15 points and 12 rebounds, and logged 38 minutes on the floor. Merryman was also effective, adding five boards to his 12 points. Jack Roberts '14 made life difficult for the Bantams, rejecting five attempts.

On Sunday afternoon in LeFrak Gymnasium, the Lord Jeffs of Amherst (21-3, 9-1) protected their home court from the visiting Panthers, outscoring Middlebury by 21 points in the second half en route to an 84-67 win.

Middlebury actually surprised seventh-ranked Amherst in the first half and entered the break up 34-30. Again, the Panthers struggled from the field in the first 20 minutes, making just 2-12 three-

pointers, but dominated the boards (24 to Amherst's 17) and shot 86 percent from the line to keep the Lord Jeffs at bay. Kizel had a strong first half, posting nine points and six boards.

The second half opened inauspiciously for the Panthers, who turned over the ball just five seconds in. Amherst's All-American guard Aaron Toomey – relegated to just seven minutes in the first half due to foul trouble – took over in the second half with 17 points.

Combined, the Lord Jeffs made 67 percent of their shots in the second half and knocked down eight three-pointers. The Panthers again shot poorly in the second period, hitting just 36 percent of their chances. Sinnickson got hot in the second 20 minutes, scoring 12 of his team-leading 18 points after the break, but it was too little too late for Middlebury.

"They really kind of kicked it up a notch," Brown said. "They exploited us a little bit with their transition offense. We just really struggled to capture the momentum we had at the end of the first half."

The game sealed home-court advantage throughout the conference tournament for Amherst, who will host the semifinals and finals as long as they win their first-round matchup with the Colby Mules on Saturday, Feb. 22.

Middlebury will host a quarterfinal matchup against Hamilton on the same day, a team which beat the Panthers just three weeks ago.

"I think it begins and ends with [Hamilton sophomore] Matt Hart," Brown said. "He's going to be at the forefront of our preparation this week. I think we're going to try several different people, certainly James Jensen being one of them, to try to

slow him and try to get him out of rhythm a little bit."

If the Panthers win against Hamilton, they will travel to Amherst with a chance to play their way into the NCAA tournament by winning the conference playoffs. Barring a NESCAC title, Middlebury will likely miss the NCAA tournament for the first time since 2006-2007.

Brown does not fear a return to Amherst College or anywhere else that the finals may be played.

"I feel good about it," Brown said, "I feel equally confident playing on the road as opposed to playing at home."



JEFF PATTERSON

Hunter Merryman '15 wills this lay-up in against Trinity on Friday, Feb. 14 on his way to 12 points and five boards.

Squash Serves Up Summers Cup Win at Nationals

By Stephen Etna

After a long season full of travel times exacerbated by inclement weather, the squash season finally reached its endpoint for the men at the Summers Cup, hosted at Harvard. With team nationals being divided into different flights, and with each flight containing eight teams, the Panthers, ranked 17th coming into Nationals, drew the first seed in the C Flight, also known as the Summers Cup.

Having found themselves in this bracket four times in the last seven years, the Panthers were aware of the challenges that were presented before them.

"Of 77 teams competing in the Division 1 squash," Rob Galluccio '15 said, "we were going against some of the best teams not to be in the top 16. With traditional powers like some of the Ivies in our bracket, we knew we were in for a tough weekend of play."

While Galluccio was correct in assessing the Summers Cup field as challenging, the Panthers played with the confidence of the favorite. Play opened up Friday evening

with Middlebury taking on a familiar opponent in Hamilton. Having defeated their NESCAC peers handily 9-0 earlier the season on their home courts, the Panthers played with a predictable swagger. The lineup played to its potential, with Parker Hurst '14, Will Moore '14, Harrison Croll '16, Reed Palmer '15 and Ben Krant '17 all coasting to victories without dropping a single game to their counterparts from Hamilton. Having won handily against Hamilton, the Panthers prepared for a second-round match with George Washington University.

Against the Colonials, Middlebury also understandably entered the match with a degree of confidence, as earlier this season, at the Yale Round Robin, the Panthers defeated George Washington without much difficulty, 6-3. However, with George

Washington having shown considerable improvement in recent years, and with many up and coming younger players, Middlebury did not make the mistake of underestimating its opposition.

"With traditional powers like some of the Ivies in our bracket, we knew we were in for a tough weekend of play."

ROB GALLUCCIO '15

did not drop a single game to George Washington thereafter, sweeping every match in three straight games.

Following the impressive win over

George Washington, Middlebury went on to face Brown in the Summers Cup final.

Following the prevailing theme of the weekend, Middlebury had also defeated Brown soundly earlier in the season, but Brown proved more competitive this time around.

Following a tough start to the match in which Middlebury would only take one match in the first five slots, pressure was on the bottom half of the lineup to perform, or else lose the Summers Cup Championship.

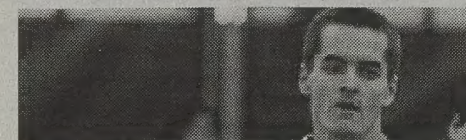
Croll righted the ship, breezing to a shutout win in the six slot to keep Middlebury's hopes alive. Showing some veteran savvy, Palmer and Galluccio both won their matches to draw a decisive battle at the seventh slot, with the score tied at 4-4. With everything riding on the performance of Will Hanley '15, Hanley overcame an early deficit to win not only his match, but also the Summers Cup for Middlebury.

With the season coming to an end following their final victory over Brown, the Panthers finished with a final ranking of 17th nationally and an 11-8 overall record.

EDITORS' PICKS



ALEX MORRIS (29-27, .518)



FRITZ PARKER (30-35, .462)



JOE MACDONALD (25-32, .439)

Who will win the gold medal in men's hockey in Sochi on Saturday, Feb. 22?

CANADA
Repeat gold medals for the Canucks.

SWEDEN
I don't know about "experts", but I think Sweden is pretty good at hockey. Are they, Joe Mac?

CANADA
Experts talk about the Canadians as the most complete team in the tournament.

Will Middlebury place in the top three this weekend at Winter Carnival, doubling as the EISA Championships?

YES
I'm getting pretty stoked for this day off.

YES
After the comeback at Williams, I'm feeling a yes on this one.

YES
Home mountain advantage will be a key factor.

Will the men's hockey team earn the right to host a playoff game with some wins this weekend?

NO
It's getting lonely down here with only three editors.

NO
Bowdoin's got the tiebreaker anyways. Don't sleep on the Panthers in the tourney though.

NO
Even if they win both, Bowdoin (currently fourth) has two winnable games.

Duke (-10) at UNC in a long-awaited rivalry game

UNC
If there's one thing I hate more than Proctor London broil, it's Duke basketball.

UNC
But none of it will matter when UVA wipes the court with both of them in the ACC tournament.

DUKE
Jabari for President

Near Upset!

Middlebury comes up nine points short of disrupting the reign of Amherst and Williams atop NESCAC women's swimming. See pg. 17 for full meet coverage.

